
CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
January 28, 2026 Minutes

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on January 28, 2026 at 6:00pm in the Study Session Room at City Hall, 20 East Main Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christiana Hammond, Chair
Spencer Beck
William Campos
Abram Ellsworth
Yudit Nonthe Sanchez
Perla Sandberg
Oscar White
Jane Williams-Cooper

MEMBERS ABSENT

Sabrina Dobson
Chantelle Frazee-Jacobs

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Alicoate
Bianca Amin
Randall Vogel

GUESTS

Lisa Olson
Bryanna Blanco
Kathleen Richards

1. Chair's Call to Order.

Ms. Hammond called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

(1a) Announcement of excused absences.

Ms. Sabrina Dobson and Ms. Chantelle Frazee-Jacobs were announced as excused absences for this meeting.

2. Items from Citizens Present. *

No citizens wished to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the December 3, 2025 HRAB meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Oscar White and seconded by Mr. Abram Ellsworth that the above-mentioned minutes be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Mr. William Campos, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Perla Sanberg, Mr. Oscar White, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

4. Hear, discuss, and approve the selection of the Vice-Chair role.

It was moved by Mr. Oscar White and seconded by Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper that the selection of Mr. Ellsworth as Vice Chair be accepted as written.

Upon tabulation of votes, it showed:

AYES – Ms. Christiana Hammond, Mr. Spencer Beck, Mr. William Campos, Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Ms. Perla Sanberg, Mr. Oscar White, Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper

NAYS – None

5. Hear and discuss a presentation from the East Valley Children's Theatre about its community programs.

Ms. Lisa Olson, East Valley Children's Theatre Board President, presented an overview of services offered by the organization. The East Valley Children's Theatre (EVCT) will be celebrating its 30th anniversary and has been an integrative part of the Mesa arts community. The program currently serves children 3 to 18 years of age with the Adaptive Theatre program serving special needs children and adults up to the age of 22. The program offers year-round Theatre arts classes, workshops, troupe and camp opportunities, Technical and Adaptive Theatre programs, along with playwrights contests for aspiring artists. She made a request to the Board to inform her of any available space to accommodate the relocation of the Scene Shop and its associated storage. Ms. Olson concluded her presentation by addressing questions and responding to feedback from the Board.

6. Hear and discuss a presentation from the Mesa Arts Center about its community and educational programs.

Mr. Randy Vogel, Deputy Director of Arts and Culture at the Mesa Arts Center (MAC), presented an overview of the organization's services and community impact to the Board. He highlighted MAC's Engagement Programs, which provide arts opportunities for all ages and backgrounds, including dance and movement classes, Arts in Service for veterans and service members, and Creative Aging programs for older adults. Mr. Vogel also described MAC's community outreach initiatives, such as Classical Music Inside Out, the Mobile Art-Based Engagement Lab (MABEL), Literacy Through Drama for younger audiences, and LIT Ink, all of which expand access to the arts and foster creativity, connection, and empathy throughout Mesa. Mr. Vogel concluded his presentation by addressing questions and responding to feedback from the Board.

7. Scheduling of meetings, future agenda items, and general information.

(9a) Next HRAB meeting will be held on February 25, 2026 at 6pm in the Council Study Session Room at City Hall, 20 East Main Street, Mesa, AZ, 85201.

8. Hear reports on conferences and/or meetings attended.

Mr. Beck attended a fundraising event at Falcon Field Airport.

Mr. Campos attended a networking event with the United Food Bank, an East Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and a Mesa Chamber of Commerce networking events.

Mr. Ellsworth attended Merry Main Street and patronized the Neighborhood Comedy Theatre.

Ms. Nonthe Sanchez attended Regional Unity Walk.

Ms. Sandberg attended a few Grand Openings of small businesses around her community.

Mr. White attended the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade, Regional Unity Walk, East Valley Veterans Day Parade, Christmas Day Veterans Support, and Merry Main Street.

Ms. Williams-Cooper attended the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade, Regional Unity Walk, a neighborhood food drive, and a community sing-along and caroling event at Eastmark.

9. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,
Assistant to the City Manager