



**CITY OF MESA
HUMAN RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD (HRAB)
December 3, 2025 Minutes**

The Human Relations Advisory Board (HRAB) of the City of Mesa met on December 3, 2025 at 6:00pm in the Study Session Room at City Hall, 20 East Main Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Christiana Hammond, Chair
Spencer Beck
William Campos
Sabrina Dobson
Chantelle Frazee-Jacobs
Yudit Nonthe Sanchez
Oscar White

MEMBERS ABSENT

Abram Ellsworth
Perla Sandberg
Jane Williams-Cooper

STAFF PRESENT

Andrea Alicoate
Elisha Gutierrez
Jesse Simms

GUESTS**1. Chair's Call to Order.**

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

- (1a) Announcement of excused absences.
- (1b) Announcement of resignation from Vice-Chair, Nina Allred.

Mr. Abram Ellsworth, Ms. Perla Sandberg, and Ms. Jane Williams-Cooper were announced as excused absence for this meeting.

2. Items from Citizens Present. *

No citizens wished to speak to the board.

3. Approval of minutes from the October 22, 2025 HRAB meeting.

It was moved by Mr. Oscar White and seconded by Mr. Spencer Beck 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, Ms. Sabrina Dobson, Ms. Chantelle Frazee-Jacobs, Ms. Yudit Nonthe Sanchez, Mr. Oscar White
NAYS – None

4. Hear, discuss a presentation from Mesa Public Library on an overview of library services, including the new Gateway Branch, strategic plan goals and other programs and initiatives.

Mr. Jesse Simms, Assistant Library Director, presented to the Board an overview of services offered by the Mesa Public Library (MPL). Mr. Simms shared the MPL's vision of "*Dreaming Starts Here*" is to inspire community members to dream and think big, supported by a mission focused on lifelong learning, individual empowerment, and building community strength. The library system includes four full-service locations, a self-serve express library, and a bookmobile that expands access across the community. Now in the third year of its strategic plan, MPL measures success through four pillars: customer experience (with visitation trend rebounding to 690,000 in FY 2024–25), community literacy (tracked through item circulation),

engagement and access (extending services and partnerships beyond library walls), and staff support (fostering staff growth to better serve the community). Mr. Simms concluded the presentation by addressing questions and responding to feedback from the Board.

5. Hear and discuss an update on Read On Mesa and the AARP Experience Corps literacy tutor program.

Ms. Alicoate presented an overview of Read On Mesa and the City's partnership with AARP Foundation Experience Corps. Read On Mesa promotes a love of reading through accessible materials and programs that support Mesa's multigenerational readiness for school, career, and community. Through the partnership, seniors aged 50 and older receive training in reading and fluency tutoring then are paired with students in kindergarten through third grade who are reading below grade level. The program aims to help students build fluency and accuracy skills to become strong readers by the end of third grade. Launched in January 2024, the partnership has expanded to 10 Mesa Public Schools during the current school year. Ms. Alicoate noted that the program has benefited students academically while also fostering community connections among students, families, and volunteer tutors. Ms. Alicoate concluded by addressing questions and responding to feedback from the Board.

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

(9a) Next HRAB meeting will be held on January 28, 2026 at 6pm in the City Hall Study Session Chamber (20 East Main St.).

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

Mr. Beck attended the East Valley Veterans Day Parade and Veterans Day flag plantings.

Ms. Dobson attended the Mesa Arts Center's Dia de Los Muertos and Mesa Community College Empty Bowl event.

Ms. Frazee-Jacobs attended the East Valley Veterans Day Parade.

Ms. Hammond attended the lighting of the tree at Merry Main St.

Mr. White attended the Mesa Arts Center's Dia de Los Muertos, Marine Corps Ball, and East Valley Veterans Day Parade.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted By:



Andrea Alicoate,
Assistant to the City Manager