



CITY OF NORMAN, OK
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room
201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Monday, July 27, 2026 at 5:30 PM

AGENDA

It is the policy of the City of Norman that no person or groups of persons shall on the grounds of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, familial status, marital status, including marriage to a person of the same sex, disability, relation, or genetic information, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination in employment activities or in all programs, services, or activities administered by the City, its recipients, sub-recipients, and contractors. In the event of any comments, complaints, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, and auxiliary aids and services regarding accessibility or inclusion, please call 405-366-5424, Relay Service: 711. To better serve you, five (5) business days' advance notice is preferred.

Commissioners: Aisha Ali (Chair), Jess Schwager (Vice-Chair), Jackie Farley, Romina Navarro Vega, Phillip Moss, Rachel Wyatt-Swanson, Brandon Clark (2 vacancies)

ROLL CALL

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MAY 18, 2026, REGULAR MEETING
2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 22, 2026, REGULAR MEETING
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 29, 2026, SPECIAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO FINALIZE GOALS, MISSION, AND VISION FOR 2026 AND 2027
5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE 2026 HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD
6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE 2027 MAYOR'S INTERFAITH BREAKFAST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for residents to address the Norman Human Rights Commission. Due to Open Meeting Act Regulations, Commissioners are not able to participate in discussion during

public comments. Remarks should be directed to the Commission as a whole and limited to three (3) minutes or less.

ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF NORMAN, OK
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room
201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Monday, May 18, 2026 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room at the Municipal Building, on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 5:30 PM and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Aisha Ali, Chair (Ward 3)
Romina Navarro Vega (Ward 6)
Jessica Schwager (Ward 4)
Brandon Clark (Ward 5)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Jackie Farley (Ward 8)
Phillip Moss (Ward 2)
Rachel Wyatt-Swanson (Ward 8)

STAFF PRESENT

Grace Holloman, Accessibility and Culture Coordinator
Sarah Encinias, Legal Admin Tech

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present. Chair Ali called the meeting to order at 5:29 p.m.

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE APRIL 27, 2026, REGULAR MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Clark to approve the Minutes for the April 27, 2026, regular meeting and motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Schwager. A vote was taken with the following results: all approved and none opposed. The Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROCLAMATION PROCESS

Chair Ali asked if anyone had any questions. She said she had a template email that she sends to proclamation recipients and Ms. Holloman said she would send the template to everyone. Also, Ms. Holloman said the Hispanic Heritage Month

proclamation may need to be changed back to its originally planned council day due to it being celebrated mid-month.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MISSION AND GOALS FOR 2026

Commissioner Clark motioned for a special meeting dedicated to discuss this topic only. Commissioners discussed various ideas for missions and goals and wanted to be more involved in community action. Chair Ali suggested possibly using a **focus group** to plan the next Interfaith Breakfast; Commissioners agreed to hold special meetings to plan the breakfast instead, if needed.

Commissioner Clark asked members to agree on a date in June or July for the special meeting. **Members agreed on either Monday, June 29 or Thursday, July 2. Different meeting lengths were discussed by different members and included possible lengths of 2 or 4 hours.** As before, members will email ideas and suggestions to Ms. Holloman prior to the meeting.

(A meeting addendum authored by Commissioners is attached to further detail this item.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Clark asked if the Human Rights Complaint form can be submitted online. Staff confirmed it cannot as the form requires signature and a notary. He and additional commissioners asked to have an in depth meeting about the complaint process. Commissioner Clark also suggested inviting every councilmember, one at a time, to an HRC meeting.

Commissioner Schwager said she learned of a book she wanted to share with members after speaking with someone associated with the City of Oklahoma City's Human Rights Commission. The book is entitled Redeem a Nation by Damarion Solomon-Simmons, a civil rights attorney who represents still living survivors of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre. Additional information can be found at the following link: <https://www.redeemanation.com/>

Commissioner Navarro Vega said she connected with the International Human Rights class at the University of Oklahoma and gained valuable insight after speaking with students about how global issues shape individual communities.

Chair Ali briefly mentioned an activity she registered for online and said she would share it with Ms. Holloman to share with commissioners after the meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

(Public Comments) None.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.



CITY OF NORMAN, OK HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING

Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room
201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Monday, June 22, 2026 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room at the Municipal Building, on Monday, June 22, 2026 at 5:30 PM and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Aisha Ali, Chair (Ward 3)
Jackie Farley (Ward 8)
Romina Navarro Vega (Ward 6)
Rachel Wyatt-Swanson (Ward 8)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Jessica Schwager (Ward 4)
Phillip Moss (Ward 2)
Brandon Clark (Ward 5)

STAFF PRESENT

Grace Holloman, Accessibility and Culture Coordinator
Jeanne Snider, Assistant City Attorney
Sarah Encinias, Legal Admin Tech

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present. Chair Ali called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE MAY 18, 2026, REGULAR MEETING

The following changes were requested by Commissioners to the May 18, 2026, meeting minutes:

- First paragraph under Item 3: change the word “subcommittee” to “focus group”.
- Second paragraph under Item 3: change the approximate length of meeting time from 2 hours to 4 hours and add additional details discussed about the future special meeting.

Ms. Encinias said she would include both approximate meeting time lengths as both numbers were heard at the meeting. HRC Commissioners who wish to include

additional information in the minutes will prepare an addendum to add to the final minutes.

Motion was made and seconded by Commissioners to move approval of the finalized minutes to the HRC meeting in July. Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

2. PRESENTATION BY NORMAN CULTURAL CONNECTION

Chair Ali introduced Mariel Martyn, Executive Director, of local non-profit organization Norman Cultural Connection. Ms. Martyn previously spoke to Mayor Holman regarding the initiative to tie community organizations together to work cohesively in what will be entitled "Charter for Compassion". The idea originally came from author, Karen Armstrong, who wishes to support a global movement that connects people, cultivates relationships, and encourages compassionate action at every level of society. Marilyn Turkovich then started the organization in 2013 as Education Director and now serves as Executive Director. Ms. Martyn's organization has already joined as an organizational partner.

Ms. Martyn handed out copies of pages from the Charter for Compassion website and spoke about the group's mission. They wish to also work with schools and private organizations and to categorize them in one of seven pillars that describes how they contribute to their community. The HRC would be identified as part of the "Justice" pillar in the charter.

She further stated that the US Conference of Mayors has endorsed the Compassionate Cities movement and encourages communities with over 35,000 residents to participate. Rather than creating new organizations, the Charter provides an umbrella that connects work already happening throughout the community. The long-term goal is for Norman to become recognized as a Compassionate City.

Commissioners asked Ms. Martyn various questions and agreed to discuss this opportunity further as a group. Ms. Martyn was thanked for her presentation and information.

3. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE JUNE 29, 2026, SPECIAL MEETING

Chair Ali said she would gather her notes and ideas in addition to those she has received from other commissioners and compile them to help as a guide when they chose a Mission and Vision statement. She would also like to complete written procedures of HRC activities and establish clear goals for the remainder of the year. Commissioners then discussed work assignments of each member.

As an aside, Ms. Holloman requested that commissioners ask her directly if they have questions about a policy or procedure so as to lessen possible miscommunication between members. Ms. Encinias also wished to clarify that meeting minutes serve only as a summary and are not meant to be a transcription of the meeting. However,

she would begin recording meetings to allow members to review previous meetings in more detail if they desired.

Members reconfirmed that the Special Meeting would be held from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm in the Executive Conference Room.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Holloman asked members to let her know when they have invited other people to come and participate at an HRC meeting so appropriate preparations can be made. Commissioner Navarro Vega clarified that if members that are interested in remaining on the HRC, they need to resubmit an application before their current term ends.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

(Public Comments) None.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.



CITY OF NORMAN, OK
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION - SPECIAL MEETING
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room
201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Monday, June 29, 2026 at 4:30 PM

MINUTES

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in a Special Meeting in the Executive Conference Room at the Municipal Building, on Monday, June 29, 2026 at 4:30 PM and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and on the City website at least 48 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Aisha Ali, Chair (Ward 3)
Jessica Schwager (Ward 4)
Jackie Farley (Ward 8)
Romina Navarro Vega (Ward 6)
Phillip Moss (Ward 2)
Rachel Wyatt-Swanson (Ward 8)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Brandon Clark (Ward 5)

STAFF PRESENT

Grace Holloman, Accessibility and Culture Coordinator
Jeanne Snider, Assistant City Attorney
Sarah Encinias, Legal Admin Tech

ROLL CALL - A quorum was present. Chair Ali called the meeting to order at 4:41 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MISSION, VISION, AND GOALS FOR 2026

Commissioner Wyatt-Swanson distributed a handout detailing possible choices for a Vision Statement, Mission Statement, and Values Statement. Group discussion was held regarding this and further discussion was held regarding written processes and procedures for various regular HRC activities.

For a future meeting, Commissioners also asked for a review of the introductory presentations that some members gave at OU and Oklahoma City regarding the Norman HRC.

ADJOURNMENT - This meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.