



**CITY OF SCOTTSDALE
HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, November 10, 2025

Community Design Studio
7506 E. Indian School Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

PRESENT: Cynthia Romagnolo, Vice-Chair
Ashley Adams (MS Teams)
Veronica Aguilar (MS Teams)
Muhammad Babur (MS Teams)
Shiry Sapir
Chass Onkst

ABSENT: Mason Gates

STAFF: Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director
Joy Racine, Community Involvement Manager
Kristi Hahn-McDonald, Human Services Manager

Call to Order

Vice-Chair Romagnolo called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present as listed above.

Land Acknowledgement

Public Comment

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

1. **Discussion and possible action to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from September 8, 2025**

VICE-CHAIR ROMAGNOLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 8, 2025, HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER SAPIR SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR ROMAGNOLO, COMMISSIONERS ADAMS, AGUILAR, BABUR, SAPIR, AND ONKST VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

2. **Welcome new commission members and thank departing commission members**

Commissioners expressed thanks to former Commissioner Tina Drews for her dedication to the Commission over the past three years. Former Commissioner Drews thanked staff, spoke about her experiences on the Commission, and encouraged Commissioners to continue advocating.

Commissioner Onkst introduced herself and spoke about her interest in the Commission.

3. **Debrief Commission on September 30, 2025 Mayor and City Council Presentation**

Vice-Chair Romagnolo gave an overview of the presentation delivered to the Mayor and the City Council on September 30, 2025. She listed the discussion items, noting that the Council was encouraged to collaborate with the Human Relations Commission on a regular basis.

Kelly Corsette, Communications/Public Affairs Director, explained that the Council has begun asking boards and commissions to give annual presentations using a standard format, providing updates on their current activities. He reminded the Commission that they will be reviewing the 2025 Human Relations Commission draft annual report during the December meeting.

4. **Presentation, discussion and possible recommendations regarding collaboration with Mayor's Youth Council**

Mayor's Youth Council (MYC) Members Siddhanth Gupta and Vishwa Gandhi gave a presentation outlining the purpose of MYC and activities and opportunities that members are involved in. They stressed that the program allows high school students to learn about Scottsdale and city government and get their voices heard. Last year, MYC was able to participate in a youth town hall and mock city council meeting where vaping among youth was discussed. Through that process, they were able to work with lawyers to write an ordinance, solicit signatures of support, get public feedback, and present it to the Scottsdale City Council. As a result of their efforts, on September 30, 2025, the City Council unanimously passed the ordinance prohibiting vaping in public places.

Students from all Scottsdale high schools may apply, and interviews are conducted by current members. Membership is limited to approximately 40. MYC is focusing this year on AI policies and social media addictions. Information regarding MYC activities is available through the City's website. The Human Relations Commission was encouraged to participate in the annual Unity Walk along with MYC. Commission Members offered to act as mentors to MYC students.

Kristi Hahn-McDonald, Human Services Manager, explained that applications open in April for the following year, and students from public, private, and charter schools are welcome to apply. They strive to have representation from all schools. Selected students are assigned as representatives of their school.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the Human Relations Commission's strategic plan

Commissioner Adams noted that she has been in touch with Roger Lurie regarding Partners for Paiute and opportunities through Scottsdale Community Partners to volunteer with them in packing food.

Mr. Corsette spoke regarding communication between Commissioners and following the Open Meeting Law requirements for a quorum. He said if there is a last-minute opportunity or professional articles that someone would like to forward to the group, they should notify the Chair and the staff liaison, who will then send the information out to the rest of the Commissioners.

Discussion ensued regarding collaborating with Mayor's Youth Council. It was suggested that, as a way to influence and help Mayor's Youth Council members, Commissioners could schedule coffee chats with individual students. Staff said they will reach out to Kristi Hahn-McDonald to see if there is interest in a coffee chats program.

A discussion regarding participation in the Unity Walk will be agendized for the December meeting.

6. Identification of Future Agenda Items

Future agenda items could include:

- Coordination with Mayor's Youth Council
- Presentation from the JCC
- Nominations for chair and vice-chair of the Commission (election to be held in January)
- Draft Annual Report review

Mr. Corsette announced that he is retiring from the City and this is his last meeting. Joy Racine will be taking over duties of staff liaison to the Commission.

Adjournment

VICE-CHAIR ROMAGNOLO MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER ONKST SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED SIX (6) TO ZERO (0). VICE-CHAIR ROMAGNOLO, COMMISSIONERS ADAMS, AGUILAR, BABUR, SAPIR, AND ONKST VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE. THERE WERE NO DISSENTING VOTES.

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

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