



Meeting | April 12, 2022 | 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center

Members Present	Members Absent
Marquess Dennis	Thomas Boxley
Dewayne Dickens	Daryll Bright
David Harris	Larissa McNeil
Brian Humphrey	Jameelah Stuckey
Margaret Love	
Anthony Payne	
Burlinda Radney	
Greg Robinson II	
Maybelle Wallace	
Kristi Williams	

I. Call to Order and Introductions

- a. Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm by Chairwoman Williams
- b. Chairwoman Williams welcomes Commissioner Anthony Payne to the commission.
 - i. Commissioner Payne introduces himself as a Native Tulsan, with a degree in Psychology from Langston University. Commissioner Payne has served on the Tulsa Fire Department for 14 years.

II. Approval of Minutes from March

- a. Commissioner Dickens calls for a revision of phrasing under section 4c – where the last sentence stated that an event was unsuccessful beneath the education committee report. Commissioner Dicken’s rationale to change the phrasing is based on the definition of success, which in this instance isn’t defined by people who didn’t register for the reported event. The success was working with a team to come up and implement the plan, leaders coming together, and reaching the attendees who did participate rather than the number of people who did register.
 - i. Pending this correction, Commissioner Williams calls for a motion to approve the March meeting minutes.
 - ii. Commissioner Dennis makes a motion to approve the minutes
 - iii. Commissioner Love seconds the motion
 - iv. Minutes approved.

III. Chair Report

- a. Commissioner Williams reports that the commission will be restructuring the committee in the upcoming retreat. She reminds the commission that everyone should have gotten an email that includes a doodle poll for potential meeting dates and times so that planning could begin. She informs the commission that commissioners Dennis, Stuckey, and herself met with Krystal to formally begin planning the retreat.
- b. Commissioner Williams reports that this week is Black Maternal Health Week – a 50-year movement by the “Black Mom’s Matter Alliance”, which was designed to create awareness around Black maternal health in America.
 - i. Commissioner Williams reminds the commission that this is relevant because Black infant mortality rates have risen significantly in both Tulsa and the

collective state of Oklahoma. The CDC has also that Black Women experience pregnancy-related deaths at 3x the rate of white Women, and Oklahoma remains above the national average.

- ii. Finally, Commissioner Williams reports that yesterday, the Black contractor’s association met at Rudasill library. They reported that only 20 black contractors were present, and the association noted that only 3 Black plumbers were formally licensed. Commissioner Williams proposes that the commission begin researching ways to educate and distribute information related to bidding processes for city jobs.

IV. Committee Reports

a. Housing Policy

- i. No report

b. Economic Development

- i. No report

c. Education Committee

- i. No report

d. Cultural Awareness Committee

- i. Commissioner Wallace reports that she attended the “Our Legacy Tulsa Project”, Kirkpatrick Heights, and Greenwood District meeting held on Monday. She described it as very informative, and there were a lot of great ideas presented.
- ii. Theatre North will be celebrating its anniversary by hosting a play entitled “The Nacirema Society”, by Pearl Cleage, at TPAC on May 21st at 8 pm, 22nd at 3 pm, 28th at 8 pm, and 29th at 3 pm.

e. Equal Justice and Accountable Policing

- i. Commissioner Williams reported that a Tulsa Police Department video, of a mentally ill woman being taunted by a TPD officer recently went viral.
 1. Commissioner Williams reports that the office of the independent monitor went to City Council to illustrate this incident as a reason why TPD needs an Oversight Independent Monitor with civilian oversight. Commissioner Williams does not believe Tulsa policing is working, and that the Equality Indicators illustrate most of her reasons, why regarding victims of force by TPD.
 - a. Commissioner Williams continues by reporting that Tulsa Police Department Chief, Wendell Franklin, stated that everything that happened in that video was congruent with Tulsa policing policy and regulations.
 - i. She reminds the commission that the independent oversight committee was rejected by the city council by a vote of 7-2. However, the City Council has recently indicated their desire to readdress the ordinance regarding civilian oversight with the new city attorney – Jack Blair.
 1. Commissioner Williams insists that the systemic harm of policing requires a systemic response. She thinks that it’s important that the

commission prepare to draft another letter to make recommendations on things systemically impacting the community. She encourages the commission to attend council meetings, organization and community, meetings, and protests. Everything we've gotten we've had to protest and fight for – and be sure we're there.

- ii. Commissioner Williams reports that she attended a two-day conference by Councilor Hall Harper where they discussed understanding the roles of cities and descendant communities. Over those two days, she learned that a lot of the struggles the African American Community in Tulsa is facing are considered basic international human rights violations. and look at how to come to solutions to push this city for our numbers to come down – the black infant mortality is on our hearts and mind and our babies is a worthy initiative.

f. Human Rights Commission

- i. Commissioner McNeil was formally appointed to the Human Rights Commission as the GTAAAC delegate.

V. Old Business

- a. None

VI. New Business

- a. Commissioner Humphries asks if the commission has formal plans to participate in Juneteenth celebrations – and if the commission has any plans to introduce themselves and engage with the community.
 - i. Commissioner Humphries thinks it'd be a good idea to hold a meet and greet type of event in any of the ongoing TAE0-led Developments in Greenwood. He informs the committee that the Evans Finn Tube Site is adjacent to the BMX Park, and is an 11 acre brings up the TAE0 developments in Greenwood – two main developments that TAE0 has been engaged in for the last couple of years – the
- b. Commissioner Robinson reminds the commission that Commissioner Radney serves on the leadership team for both developments and last week they had their final community meeting where two final contractors were selected, and only one of the two teams will move forward.
 - a. Commissioner Robinson notes that all the meetings were very highly attended, which was appropriate because this is the most expensive single development that the city is working towards. These developments have also been marketed as engagements to build Black wealth.
 - i. However, Commissioner Robinson feels that a significant opportunity was missed with the Evan Finns tube site. He feels that the community placed all the ownness on the developers to create strategies for community wealth building in Greenwood. He states that the City could've done something like create a land trust and taken the ownness off the developers.

1. Commissioner Humphries agrees and states his belief that some goals, like asking a developer to create community wealth-building strategies are unattainable when relying upon a private sector. He acknowledges the well-intentioned effort to host multiple community meetings, but questions if the community voice was strong in terms of definitive answers for wealth-building strategy. I.e. Private developers generally layout about 10 goals but only end up fulfilling about 2. As private developers – some things encroach upon risk factors – and to avoid the risk and consequences, they begin seeking alternatives that often eliminate what’s best for the community.
- c. Commissioner Robinson believes that this commission should be used as a platform to share this type of knowledge, as well as whether the commission wants to endorse or not endorse certain projects.
 - i. He proposes inviting TAE0 to ask questions from this discussion. He doesn’t think that there’s enough knowledge about the projects, but there’s a lot of education to be done. He thinks it’s equally relevant for the commission to advocate for policing and economic development.
 1. Commissioner Humphries agrees and expresses his belief that this platform should be utilized to highlight what steps were taken and what wasn’t done, as well as putting the ownness on private developers s to do things without proper resources and creating situations with unachievable goals.
 - d. Commissioner Radney remarks that she doesn’t think that’s what happened.
 - i. Commissioner Wallace questions who chose the leadership groups for these projects and expresses her desire to see more young people selected. She feels that all the folks serving on the board are a misrepresentation of the demographics that exist.
 - ii. Commissioner Radney, who serves on the leadership board states that she agrees with the spirit of what commissioner Wallace is saying. However, she believes that the failure lies in the lack of articulating a vision of what the city wanted to see in the first place. She explains to the commission that the RFP was modeled to be a design process, but, like Commissioner Humphries was saying, we held them to a standard that wasn’t attainable. The focus, in this case, was that the city could have been better-designed upfront. She felt it was poorly dealt with. With a project like this – the city adds stuff on top of it as it goes on, and that isn’t always financially feasible. As a result, the respondent is hitting all the benchmarks, but the scoring metrics no longer match the wishes of the community.

1. Commissioner Radney believes that if the city wants to truly invite people to participate – they need to approach it better. She informs the commission that Alabama is doing work around this.
- e. Commissioner Radney also informs the commission that the leadership team was appointed, not nominated, nor voted on by the community.
 - i. Commissioner Radney expresses that Tulsa can do anything but not everything. However, she believes that one of the best ways to do better would be by examining the processes that solicit talent from seemingly everywhere but the community.
 1. Commissioner Radney muses that maybe the commission should've had a conversation about qualifications on who was on the leadership committee – because she knows that what we don't have here in Tulsa, are a lot of people who have a depth of professional experience in planning, urban development, economics, or international exposure. She remarks that the commission can figure out what questions we could've asked – but if we allow folks to appoint people to speak for us then nothing matters.
 2. Commissioner Radney believes that inviting people to speak on the process is a good next step – and agrees with commissioner Humphries's perspective –that it seems that some of the goals that were written down were much too difficult for a private firm to attain – it required too much money, resources, or knowledge – and that worries her.

VII. Announcements / Public Comments

- a. None

VIII. Adjournment

- a. Commissioner Wallace makes a motion to adjourn
- b. Commissioner Love seconds the motion
- c. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.