



Greater Tulsa Area African American Affairs Commission

Regular Meeting | August 12, 2025 | 6:00 – 7:30 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center | 10 North Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Patricia Carter-Breeckner, Marquess Dennis, Dewayne Dickens, Brian Humphrey, Margaret Love, Tracye Love Chandler, Larissa McNeil, Jon Paul Ray, Jameelah Stuckey, Mikeal Vaughn, Maybelle Wallace, Juddie Williams, Tony Williams, Ray'Chel Wilson

Commissioners Absent: David Harris, Kristi Williams

I. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Dickens called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

II. Guest Speaker: District 1 City Councilor Vanessa Hall-Harper

- a. Councilor Hall-Harper passed out letters raising concerns about the Greenwood Leadership Community Development Corporation (GLCDC).
 - i. One letter from herself, (Appendix 1)
 - ii. District 73 State Representative Ronald Stewart,
 - iii. Standpipe Hill Strategies,
 - iv. Be Good Development Partners (Franchell Abdalla), and
 - v. The last letter from herself and co-signed by several faith leaders (Appendix 2)
- b. Councilor Hall-Harper read her first letter dated June 12, 2025 aloud.
 - i. Provided background about PartnerTulsa as an entity.
 - ii. Has concerns that five people have already been seated on the GLCDC without community input. Only four seats are still available.
- c. Working to raise awareness of this issue, asking for GTAAAC's support.
- d. Commission Discussion:
 - i. Commissioner Dennis: What is the process to move ownership of the property?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: The Tulsa Development Authority (TDA) will vote to transfer ownership. Would like to see them put the land under the Greenwood Trust and not GLCDC.
 - ii. Vice Chair Humphrey: Has the Greenwood Trust been established?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: Yes, the Mayor is in the process of setting up the trust and it's pretty much complete. He has promised he will ensure there is community leadership on the board.
 - iii. Commissioner Ray asked a question about the location of the property. Councilor Hall-Harper shared the land is 56 acres and most is along Cincinnati and Greenwood. Folks can google Kirkpatrick Heights-Greenwood Master Plan (KHGMP) to see where the land is.



- iv. Commissioner Love asked if the KHGMP is still in place, and Councilor Hall-Harper clarified that it is. KHGMP was a community-led plan and she still supports it continuing.
- v. Commissioner Dennis: Are we looking to help get those four seats filled?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper is not supporting GLCDC at all.
- vi. Councilor Hall-Harper clarified that TDA and Tulsa Authority for Economic Opportunity (TAEO) can vote to transfer the land to the Greenwood Trust instead of GLCDC.
- vii. Vice Chair Humphrey asked a clarifying question about if Councilor Hall-Harper is addressing the land or also funds, Councilor Hall-Harper said her focus is on the land.
- viii. Commissioner Love: Who elected the board members?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: PartnerTulsa selected them behind closed doors.
- ix. Councilor Hall-Harper is asking for organizations and entities to have a voice in how this land will be developed—some of the last land in Greenwood that has an opportunity like this.
- x. Chairman Dickens: What is needed to ensure a successful TDA vote?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: Land that is owned by TDA and is being transferred has to go to a vote. Folks can look at the lots of land that are up for vote in their agendas. This specific land is not on the agenda yet, as PartnerTulsa still trying to stand up GLCDC first.
 - 2. Chairman Dickens: Can you give us a timeframe for this issue?
 - 3. Councilor Hall-Harper: Can't give a timeline, there is a lack of communication from PartnerTulsa so she has been checking TDA agendas each week to see if the transfer of land is up for a vote.
- xi. Vice Chair Humphrey noted that doing research on this can be an action item for the Policy Committee, then they will come back to GTAAAC with a recommendation.
- xii. Vice Chair Humphrey made a motion to task the Policy Committee with researching this issue, Commissioner Dennis seconded.
 - 1. Chairman Dickens noted this needs to be the committee's number one priority.
 - 2. Commissioner Love wanted to know who is on the board.
 - 3. Commissioner Vaughn: Councilor Hall-Harper mentioned this vote could happen next month. GTAAAC only meets once a month, so how will GTAAAC ensure timely action?
 - a. Chairman Dickens: Policy Committee can recommend a special meeting of GTAAAC as long as we coordinate with the City.
 - 4. Aye: 13, Nay: 0
 - a. Commissioner Love Chandler was not yet present in the meeting.



5. Motion carried, the Policy Committee will research this issue.

III. Chair / Vice Chair Report

- a. Circle of Influence Exercise
 - i. Chairman Dickens led GTAAAC in a Circle of Influence Exercise to map GTAAAC's collective influence and see the full reach of the commission.
 - 1. The visual will help guide networking, communication, and advocacy.
 - 2. Commissioners reported their circle of influence via a QR code.
 - ii. Debrief: Where does GTAAAC have the most connections? Where are the gaps? Who can we connect to each other?
 - 1. Chairman Dickens: It's important for commissioners to be connected so GTAAAC can effectively represent the African American community in Tulsa. When we work together, we have power.
 - iii. Networking Action Plan: Commissioners will identify key individuals or organizations to follow up with, opportunities to connect groups to each other, and gaps in influence to address.
 - 1. Chairman Dickens calls upon commissioners to reach out to folks in their circle of influence before the next commission meeting and bring information back to GTAAAC.
 - 2. Reminded commissioners to not commit GTAAAC to doing something or submit products on behalf of GTAAAC.
 - iv. Chairman Dickens reminds commissioners that their connectivity is their power, can leverage to help with priorities.
- b. Vice Chair Update: Title V Commission Retreat
 - i. Vice Chair Humphrey thanked commissioners who attended the Title V Commission Retreat and thanked Lexi and Dion'trae for organizing the retreat. It was a full room, and he presented on GTAAAC's committee structure. Also learned about different areas of the City of Tulsa.
 - ii. Lexi noted a connection between today's Circle of Influence exercise and the Retreat's Relational Meeting training.

IV. Discussion and Possible Action: Commission Meeting Time

- a. Chairman Dickens asked Lexi to share about the ask from TGOV staff to consider moving the commission meeting time to earlier in the evening to help them alleviate staffing constraints.
- b. Commission Discussion:
 - i. Commissioner Wilson asked if it can be changed in the new year. Lexi noted that it's up to the commission to decide if and when they change their meeting time.
 - ii. Commissioner Wallace suggested moving meetings to 5 pm.
 - iii. Commissioner Ray proposed that 5:30 would be a good middle ground, moving to 5 would be difficult for those coming after work.
 - 1. Commissioner Love Chandler also supports 5:30.
 - iv. Commissioner Carter-Breeckner asked if 5:45 is an option.



- v. Commissioner Wilson has a conflict through the end of the year that precludes her from making an earlier meeting time work.
- vi. Vice Chair Humphrey noted that traffic is difficult when coming from further out in the city, moving the time up makes it even harder. Folks often struggle to get here on time for 6 pm.
- vii. Commissioners proposed having keeping the meeting start time at 6 pm and having a hard stop at 7 pm.
- c. Chairman Dickens proposed revisiting the discussion in the next meeting and taking a vote at that time. Commissioners agreed.

V. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Chairman Dickens entertained a motion to approve the June meeting minutes.
 - i. Commissioner Ray made a motion, Vice Chair Humphrey seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 14, Nay: 0
 - ii. Motion carried, June meeting minutes approved.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Policy Recommendations
 - i. Commissioner Ray reflected that the policy committee now has an emerging priority.
 - ii. Added a new member to the committee.
 - iii. Next Meeting: 8/27 at 9 am (virtually)
- b. Community Engagement and Culture Promotion
 - i. Commissioner McNeil shared three goals for the rest of the year into early 2026:
 - 1. Increase newsletter engagement.
 - 2. Increase community engagement and tabling.
 - a. Committee created a google account to build a listserv to share newsletter and events (login info will be shared with other committee chairs).
 - 3. Create a GTAAAC annual event.
 - ii. Special showing of Ragtime at Greenwood Cultural Center (Thursday at 7 pm), pay what you want donation.
 - iii. Next meeting: 8/22 at 11am (virtually)
- c. Education and Skill Building
 - i. Commissioner Stuckey spoke about the Educator awards. The committee has created a nomination form and a process to secure nominations. Will send to Lexi to share. Nominations will close the first week of September.
 - ii. Also working on an op-ed about chronic absenteeism.
 - iii. Next meeting: 9/8 at 5pm (virtually)
- d. Human Rights Commission
 - i. Commissioner McNeil shared in the June HRC meeting La Kendra Carter gave a human rights complaints update from January – June 2025. Most are housing and ADA complaints. When thinking of circle of influence or people who are struggling with those issues, get the word out about the complaints process.



ii. Two HRC goals are:

1. Improve Tulsa residents' access to the City of Tulsa Department of Resilience and Equity's resources by modernizing, streamlining, and removing barriers to the City of Tulsa's human rights complaint filing process.
2. Increase diverse representation and equitable recruitment practices across all City of Tulsa authorities, boards, and commissions.

iii. Next meeting: 8/18 at 3:30 pm in City Hall, Room 10 North

VII. Old Business – no old business

VIII. New Business – no new business

IX. Announcements / Public Comments

- a. Tulsa Area United Way Downtown Deco Challenge is August 23
- b. Welcoming Week Kickoff Event is September 12 from 5 – 8 pm
- c. Chairman Dickens encouraged public attendees to plug into a committee.

X. Adjournment

- a. Chairman Dickens made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Wilson seconded.
 - i. Aye: 14, Nay: 0
 - ii. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Tulsa, OK



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Tulsa City Council Office**WARNING: DEATH BY A MILLION CUTS – PARTNER TULSA IS SETTING THE STAGE TO
CONTINUE THE DESTRUCTION OF GREENWOOD/NORTH TULSA**

TO: The Citizens of District 1

June 12th, 2025

As the District 1 elected City Councilor, I am compelled to warn my community concerning Partner Tulsa and their actions related to the establishment of the Greenwood Legacy CDC/Kirkpatrick Heights Plan as well as the Evans FinTube Development conspiracy. After ideating several years ago and participating in these processes that were intended to transform the harmed community of Greenwood/North Tulsa, I am of the strong opinion that Partner Tulsa has not worked in the best interests of District 1 but rather is working to further the ongoing destruction of it. It has become clear that the Greenwood Legacy Community Development Corporation (GLCDC) will serve only as a false front and extension of local government that has historically and intentionally disenfranchised, destroyed and maintained the status quo of white supremacy over Black communities.

Over the last year and a half, Partner Tulsa has ignored the concerns I, your elected leader, have raised related to the creation of the GLCDC. Partner Tulsa has made and or directed decisions to be made on behalf of the community without a legitimate voice at the table. Partner Tulsa decided that elected officials cannot serve on the board and told me that there was a vote establishing this decision, yet I have been unable to find anyone confirming this vote. We were told prior to the establishment of the Advisory Committee that if you served on the Advisory Committee, you could not serve on the CDC Board. Clearly, that's not what happened as all 5 current board members served on the Advisory Committee. In addition, when the time came to select the board, the initial planning group volunteers were never reconvened, updated and presented with an opportunity to serve on the board. Rather, five members (a majority of 9) were selected behind closed doors to serve on the board without community input. Where is the transparency in that? Decisions are being made for us, without us in secrecy by Partner Tulsa and the board that they created is rubber stamping what Partner Tulsa is directing them to do.

Tulsa City Council
175 East 2nd Street, 4th Floor
Tulsa, OK 74103

Tulsa, OK



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Tulsa City Council Office

In addition, my community was totally bamboozled with the Evans FinTube Development that was led by Franchell Abdalla and selected by the community. Franchell's proposal and process was sabotaged to fail by Partner Tulsa from the very beginning. The entire process was a scam on the Black community to make it appear from a national perspective, that during the centennial commemoration of the Race Massacre that Tulsa was finally going to do right by our community. IT WAS ALL A LIE and things are right back to the normal status quo of white supremacy in Tulsa. The structure and process of the GLCDC will only ensure that development and opportunities to build wealth remain with the white male majority in Tulsa and we the Black community will be lucky to receive a few crumbs off the table. I have tried to have my concerns addressed throughout this process and I have been consistently disregarded and disrespected as your elected leader by Partner Tulsa. They have done and is continuing to do whatever the hell they want. Partner Tulsa and the GLCDC cannot be TRUSTED!

Therefore, as your elected City Councilor for District 1, I must SOUND THE ALARM and warn my community that the Greenwood Legacy CDC is a tool that is being created without your voice AND will bring further harm to our community!

POWER TO THE PEOPLE!!

Vanessa Hall-Harper, MS
District 1 City Councilor

The opinions or policy positions expressed, either directly or indirectly, do not necessarily represent the view or position of the Tulsa City Council or the City of Tulsa.

Tulsa City Council
175 East 2nd Street, 4th Floor
Tulsa, OK 74103

To:

**Mayor Monroe Nichols
Greenwood/Kirkpatrick Heights/North Tulsa
Tulsa Development Authority (TDA)
Tulsa Authority for Economic Opportunity (TAE0)**

We, the undersigned leaders of the historic Greenwood District and North Tulsa community, stand in full support of our duly elected District 1 City Councilor, Vanessa Hall-Harper. Councilor Hall-Harper is sounding the alarm to her district concerning the deliberate actions of Partner Tulsa in the facilitation and creation of the Greenwood Legacy Community Development Corporation. Councilwoman Hall-Harper continues to win her elections by an ever-increasing landslide margin. She is unquestionably the voice of the North Tulsa community on local issues and initiatives. Yet, it is deeply disturbing to us that she has been disrespectfully disregarded by Partner Tulsa concerning the Greenwood Legacy CDC. Partner Tulsa's actions are not only disturbing but unethical and disingenuous. To exclude her presence and voice and select individuals who have NOT been elected by the people to sit on the board is quite frankly devious. We do not believe Partner Tulsa to be a trustworthy organization in our community. These divide and conquer tactics on the Black community must stop!

Therefore, we request that Partner Tulsa and the Greenwood Legacy CDC not be legitimized by the Tulsa Development Authority (TDA) and Tulsa Authority for Economic Opportunity (TAE0) by transferring the 56 acres of publicly owned land to the Greenwood Legacy CDC but rather these sacred lands be transferred to the Greenwood Trust established by the duly elected Mayor Monroe Nichols that was announced on June 1st in commemoration of the 1921 Race Massacre. We believe the Greenwood Trust will truly place the Greenwood District/North Tulsa on a "Road to Repair" and respect the officials elected by the PEOPLE!

Pastor Sam Holmes** Paradise Baptist Church 507 E. King Street Tulsa, OK 74106	Pastor Gerald Davis** Church of the Restoration 1314 N. Greenwood Ave. Tulsa, OK 74106
Pastor Keith Mayes** Historic Vernon AME Church 311 N. Greenwood Ave. Tulsa, OK 74120	Pastor Vernell L. Bell** Shiloh Baptist Church 1124 Martin Luther King Blvd. Tulsa, OK 74106
Pastor Leroy M. Cole** Mt. Zion Baptist Church 419 N. Elgin Ave. Tulsa, OK 74120	Pastor Kevin Williams** Mt. Rose Baptist Church 1137 Martin Luther King Blvd. Tulsa, OK 74106

Pastor Anthony Scott** First Baptist Church North Tulsa 1414 N. Greenwood Ave. Tulsa, OK 74106	Pastor Rodney Goss** Morning Star Baptist Church 1014 E. Pine St. Tulsa, OK 74106
Pastor Joshua Palmer** 1st Church of God In Christ 1251 N. Greenwood Ave. Tulsa, OK 74106	Pastor Anthony McMillon** Galilee Baptist Church 721 E. Pine St. Tulsa, OK 74106
Pastor Jamaal Dyer** Friendship Church 1709 N. Madison Ave. Tulsa, OK 74106	Pastor Sean A. Jarrett New Jerusalem Baptist Church 3427 N. Birmingham Ave. Tulsa, OK 74110
Pastor Layla Caldwell Agape Outreach Ministries 1029 N. Utica Ave. Tulsa, OK 74110	Representative Ron Stewart District 73 2300 N. Lincoln Blvd. Room 511 OKC, OK 73105
Pastor Larry Ingram Ambassador Christian Center 3024 N. Delaware Tulsa, OK 74110	Pastor Tim Newton Tulsa Dream Center 200 W. 46th Street North Tulsa, OK 74126
Pastor Chaz Glover Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church 2235 N. Norfolk Ave. Tulsa, OK 74106	

**Historic Greenwood District

Respectfully,

Vanessa Hall-Harper,
District 1 City Councilor