



Beyond Apology Commission

Regular Meeting | August 15, 2025 | 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center | 10 North Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: TheRese Anderson Aduni, Jacqueline Evans, Vanessa Hall-Harper, Mattece Mason, Keith Mayes, D'Marria Monday, Krystal Reyes, Greg Taylor, Kristi Williams, Corinice Wilson, Damali Wilson

Commissioners Present Virtually: Taylor West

Commissioners Absent: Phil Armstrong

City of Tulsa Staff Present: Lexi Bollis, Dion'trae Hayes

I. Call to Order

- a. Chairwoman Williams called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

II. Ancestral Acknowledgement

- a. Commissioner Aduni led the Ancestral Acknowledgement.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Chairwoman Williams entertained a motion to approve the June meeting minutes.
 - i. Commissioner Mason made a motion, Commissioner Damali Wilson seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 10
 - a. Vice Chair Corinice Wilson and Commissioner Monday were not yet present in the meeting.
 - ii. Motion carried, June meeting minutes approved.

IV. Chair / Vice Chair Report

- a. Chairwoman Williams grounded the commission with a reminder that the harm done to Greenwood was deliberate, and thus so must the repair.
- b. Chairwoman Williams distributed a handout with committee assignments (Appendix 1). Gave commissioners an opportunity to change their assignment. Also distributed a handout with committee pre-work (Appendix 2).
 - i. Will implement an application process for committee members.
 - ii. Edit: Add Mass Graves Investigation to Cultural Identity committee. Chairwoman Williams wants BAC to be involved in that process.
 - iii. Committees are expected to meet once a month. Each committee will elect a chair, who will turn in report to Chairwoman Williams one week before BAC meetings.



- iv. Can start committee work before community meetings, so BAC can show the community that the work has begun.
 - v. Deputy Mayor Reyes recommended City staff who would be helpful with different committees' work:
 - 1. Dr. Pasha: Health and Wellness
 - 2. Office of Public Art and Community Partnerships: Cultural Identity
 - c. Chairwoman Williams met with the City of Evanston so they can learn how she teaches about reparations and her model can be recreated in other communities.
 - d. Public Engagement (Community Sessions)
 - i. Chairwoman Williams doesn't want to schedule a community meeting until she meets with Mayor Nichols and learns more about the Greenwood Trust, as the community will have questions about it.
 - e. Chairwoman Williams: Greenwood founders did not wait for perfect conditions, they built anyway. We must move forward with urgency and responsibility to those who came before us and those who will inherit what BAC is shaping.
 - f. Councilor Hall-Harper: When will we be bringing in community to serve on committees?
 - i. Chairwoman Williams: Want to have the community meeting first so everyone has an opportunity to join. If you have someone in mind for a committee, you can gauge their interest, but won't officially confirm members yet. This is the community's work.
 - ii. Councilor Hall-Harper: Do you have a meeting date with Mayor Nichols?
 - iii. Chairwoman Williams: Brentom Todd said they're working on some things and will be in touch to schedule a meeting by the end of August.
 - 1. Deputy Mayor Reyes: This is a planning year, their team is getting things in order for the Greenwood Trust.
 - 2. Vice Chair Wilson: Does BAC give recommendations to the Greenwood Trust only, or to the trust and Mayor Nichols? Will need clarity.
 - g. Update on Social Media Opportunities for BAC – no update
- V. Discussion Led by Councilor Hall-Harper: Greenwood Legacy CDC**
- a. Councilor Hall-Harper passed out letters raising concerns about the Greenwood Leadership Community Development Corporation (GLCDC).
 - i. One letter from herself,
 - 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.
 - b. The Kirkpatrick Heights-Greenwood Master Plan (KHGMP) was a positive experience led by Standpipe Hill (Greg Robinson) that led to GLCDC's establishment. GLCDC was intended to be community-led.
 - c. Councilor read her letter dated June 12, 2025 aloud.
 - d. Councilor Hall-Harper is advocating that the 56 acres of land be placed in the Greenwood Trust (GT) instead of GLCDC, as the leaders of the GT will be from the community.



- e. Commission Discussion:
 - i. Vice Chair Wilson asked when the vote will take place, and Councilor Hall-Harper shared she don't know as they don't communicate
 - ii. Commissioner Mason: Will GLCDC exist in perpetuity?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: Yes, it is designed that way. Reiterated that she does not have any issues with the KHGMP, as the community was very well engaged. Can look up the plan online.
 - 2. Vice Chair Wilson noted the problem is with the lack of transparency in the process of establishing GLCDC.
 - iii. Commissioner Monday: Who are the five board members who are already selected?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: Lana Turner-Addison, Eugene Harris, Daquet Wilson, and two others.
 - 2. Councilor Hall-Harper had previously proposed electing board members. Tulsa could be unique in approaching CDC leadership in this way.
 - iv. Commissioner Monday asked if the GLCDC meetings are public, and Councilor Hall-Harper said they are invite only.
 - v. Commissioner Mason: What was the rationale behind from excluding any City Councilor from the board?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper: PartnerTulsa says they don't want GLCDC to be political.
 - vi. Vice Chair Wilson: What has been the city's response to you sounding the alarm?
 - 1. Councilor Hall-Harper has made Mayor Nichols aware of her concerns, but she's not asking or demanding he take a position as he wasn't in office when it was established. She shared that Mayor Nichols validated her concerns, but it's her job as the District 1 elected official to let the community know. Need the community to stand up
 - vii. Commissioner Mason raised concerns that if this isn't addressed now, they will be locked out of options.
 - viii. Commissioner Mayes commended Councilor Hall-Harper and noted that knowledge is power. Her sharing empowers BAC. He appreciates her putting best interest of Greenwood and Tulsa first. Vernon AME is directly affected by this as it's in the heart of Greenwood and their property is next to this land.
 - ix. Commissioner Monday clarified what the potential actions are today, asked for those invited to future closed meetings to share with BAC.
- f. Commissioner Monday made a motion to add Beyond Apology Commission as a signature on Councilor Hall-Harper's letter, Chairwoman Williams seconded.
 - i. Aye: 11
 - 1. Commissioner Damali Wilson left the meeting prior to the motion.
 - ii. Motion carried, Beyond Apology Commission will be added to Councilor Hall-Harper's letter.
- g. Commissioner Monday asked about the CDBG grant, discussion ensued about the separation of the grant process from what's being discussed.



- h. Chairwoman Williams passed out a timeline outlining the history of this issue.
- i. Commissioner Taylor: Land is where white supremacy lives. People who take advantage continue to take from the pot. He thinks we are on the right track in terms of how land and land trusts work. Going to bring this to the 1256 Board and encourages other commissioners to reach out to their organizations.
 - i. Councilor Hall-Harper noted there is no deadline to sign onto the letter because she don't know when the land transfer will be put on the agenda for Tulsa Development Authority to discuss.
 - ii. Commissioner Mason noted the importance of abstracting.

VI. Commissioner Travel Request: FirstRepair National Symposium (12/3-5/2025)

- a. Deputy Mayor Reyes is working on this.

VII. Old Business

- a. Chairwoman Williams noted BAC will use Beyond Apology's Facebook page that's under Standpipe Hill, excited to keep community aware through this. Send her reports and other information to post.

VIII. New Business

- a. Commissioner Monday: Will it be up to the committees if BAC applies for CDBG funds?
 - i. Chairwoman Williams: Yes, all committee work will funnel up to BAC. Will want to coordinate to have one comprehensive grant application that reflects all committees' work.

IX. Announcements / Public Comments

- a. Black History Saturdays has expanded into Greenwood for adult Black History classes: Third Monday of each month at 6pm at Faith Hall (Vernon AME).
- b. Butterfly AEffect Syndicate Back to School Event (8/16, 10 – 2): showcasing little-known community resources and quality childcare providers; giving away backpacks, uniforms, and infant supplies
- c. Block Builderz Community Resource Event (8/16 at noon): Oklahoma Promise signups, uniforms and other clothes giveaway

X. Adjournment

- a. Chairwoman Williams entertained a motion to adjourn.
 - i. Councilor Hall-Harper made a motion, Commissioner Mason seconded.
 - 1. Aye: 10
 - a. Vice Chair Wilson and Commissioner Damali Wilson left the meeting prior to the motion.
 - ii. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 2:21 pm.

Beyond Apology Commission - Committee Assignments

Housing:

- Kristi Williams
- Greg Robinson

Education:

- Corinice Wilson
- Therese Aduni
- Mattece Mason
- Taylor West
- Jackie Evans

Health & Wellness:

- D'Marria Monday
- Damali Wilson

Community & Economic Development + Land:

- Greg Taylor
- D'Marria Monday
- Damali Wilson
- Greg Robinson

Systems Change + Financial Compensation:

- Kristi Williams
- D'Marria Monday
- Taylor West
- Keith Mayes

Cultural Identity:

- Kristi Williams
- Phil Armstrong

Beyond Apology Commission - Committee Pre-Work

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Foundational Pre-Work for All Committees:

1. Review your committee's mission and scope within the Beyond Apology Commission.
2. Gather and review relevant documents, past reports, and community feedback related to your committee's focus area.
3. Identify 2-3 key issues or priorities to bring to the first meeting.
4. Familiarize yourself with the history of reparations and policy frameworks connected to your focus area.
5. Be prepared to share any networks, resources, or partners who could support the committee's work.

Committee-Specific Pre-Work:

Housing Committee:

- Review current housing initiatives and resources in Tulsa, especially those targeting descendants of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre.
- Identify potential barriers descendants face in accessing housing opportunities.
- Draft initial ideas for reparations-linked housing programs.
- Begin to build an application process for Housing that descendants will fill out.
- Research examples of descendant-focused housing programs in other cities.

Community & Economic Development + Land Committee:

- Map current land ownership in Greenwood and North Tulsa.
- Review the Greenwood/Kirkpatrick Heights Master Plan and identify gaps in land return or economic development for descendants.
- Prepare questions for city agencies or organizations managing economic development funds.
- Identify potential partners for land acquisition, restoration, and business development.

Education Committee:

- Review Tulsa Public Schools curriculum related to Black history and the 1921 Tulsa Race

Beyond Apology Commission - Committee Pre-Work

Massacre.

- Gather examples of community-led education initiatives nationwide.
- Identify potential partnerships with HBCUs, local schools, and cultural institutions.
- Develop ideas for educational reparations programs for descendants.

Health & Wellness Committee:

- Review public health data for North Tulsa and identify key disparities.
- Gather examples of health-related reparations or restorative justice programs.
- Identify mental health resources and culturally competent care providers in the area.
- Explore partnerships with local clinics and wellness organizations.

Systems Change & Financial Compensation Committee:

- Review policies and systems that continue to create inequities in Tulsa.
- Identify key leverage points for systemic reform.
- Gather examples of direct financial compensation programs in other reparations initiatives.
- Prepare a preliminary list of policy changes to recommend for adoption.

Cultural Identity Committee:

- Identify cultural assets in Greenwood and North Tulsa that need preservation or investment.
- Gather examples of cultural restoration efforts linked to reparations.
- Develop ideas for arts, heritage, and cultural programming that honors descendants.
- Map potential funding sources for cultural initiatives.