



Greater Tulsa Area Hispanic/Latinx Affairs Commission

Regular Meeting | January 15, 2026 | 5:30 – 6:30 pm

City Hall at One Technology Center | 10 North Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Amy Ariza, Carlos Bejarano, Jose Bamaca Hernandez, Fatima Linares, Jessica Lozano-Alvarez, Mark Ohnesorge, Amanda Peregrina, Angelica Reina

Commissioners Absent: Daniel Gomez, Jackiez Gonzalez, Mimi Martinez Herrera, Jacob Parra, Diana Pennington

Liaisons Present: Riley Howard

Liaisons Absent: Andy Little, Ivan Patino-Cortez

I. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Bejarano called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Chairman Bejarano entertained a motion to approve the November meeting minutes.
 - i. Commissioner Chavez motioned, and Commissioner Lozano-Alvarez seconded.
 1. Aye: 9, Nay: 0
 - ii. Motion carried, November meeting minutes approved.

III. Chair / Vice Chair Report

- a. Presentation of Annual Report
 - i. Chairman Bejarano reflected that 2025 was a tough year for the spaces that this group works in, grateful to step in as chair.
 - ii. Report available online on the City's website, so share with your networks.

IV. Nominating Committee

- a. Present Slate of 2026 Officers
 - i. Commissioner Reina presented the slate of 2026 officers.
 1. Chair: Jackiez Gonzalez
 2. Vice Chair: Chriss Chavez
 3. Historian: Mark Ohnesorge
 4. Recorder: no nominations
- b. Open Nominations from the Floor
 - i. Chairman Bejarano opened nominations for Recorder from the floor.
 - ii. Commissioner Lozano-Alvarez nominated herself for Recorder and was added to slate of officers.
- c. Election of 2026 Officers



- i. Chairman Bejarano entertained a motion to elect the slate of 2026 officers.
 1. Commissioner Linares made a motion, Commissioner Peregrina seconded.
 - a. Aye: 9, Nay: 0
 2. Motion carried, slate of 2026 officers elected.

V. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. Chairman Bejarano shared he met with Oklahoma Policy Institute staff, Oscar, who is interested in supporting GTAHLAC's work especially related to Immigration. Will be in contact with him when Immigration Committee gets up and running.
- b. Education Committee
 - i. Commissioner Linares noted the next meeting is Wednesday 1/21 at 11am.
 - ii. Current work includes inviting the agreed upon hopeful keynote speaker, reaching out to past donors, and launching the nomination form on Friday 1/23.
 - iii. Ceremony scheduled for May 14. Commissioner Linares opened discussion for starting ceremony at 5:30 (new GTAHLAC meeting time) or 6 pm.
 1. Chairman Bejarano noted TGOV recording is not a factor since the ceremony is offsite.
 2. Commissioner Chavez proposed starting event at 5:30, with the ceremony beginning at 6, to provide time for socializing and late arrivals. Many commissioners agreed with this idea.
- c. Community Advocacy Committee
 - i. Chairman Bejarano read a note from Vice Chair Gonzalez, who thanked Commissioner Reina for helping with translation of playbook. The playbook is 99% done, incorporating final notes on the translation now. Working on what release looks like digitally and with physical copies and organization partners.
 - ii. Lexi elevated an ask for thought partnership from Vice Chair Gonzalez to brainstorm ways to maximize engagement with community advocacy groups as we move into dissemination—especially ideas that go beyond basic sharing and help spark real use and conversation.
- d. Public Safety Committee
 - i. Committee meetings are tentatively scheduled for the first Thursday of each month at 11am, virtually, moving forward.
 - ii. Riley shared EMSA has been busy visiting schools through Youth Medical Mentorship to talk about career opportunities and the EMSA system.
 - iii. Commissioner Ohnesorge: Tulsa Police Department ended 2025 with 47 reported homicides, which is lower than 2024 & 2023, continuing a downward trend. Tulsa also had less than 1,000 non-fatal shootings in 2025, the first time this data has been lower than 1,000 since tracking began.
 - iv. Commissioner Ariza: Saw on news that there is a search for someone who was impersonating an officer. How can we inform the community on how to spot impersonators?



1. Commissioner Ohnesorge: All officers should have on their uniform something that says police, not just officer, and/or their badge. Community can always request to see an officer's credentials. Can also call 911 to ask if they have dispatched an officer to their house.

e. Immigration Committee

- i. Chairman Bejarano shared that this committee will get going in February.
- ii. If you hear of topics coming up locally, share that with Vice Chair Gonzalez. If you'd like to join committee, let Chairman Bejarano know.

1. Commissioner Ariza volunteered to chair this committee.

VI. Old Business – no old business

VII. New Business – no new business

VIII. Announcements / Public Comments

- a. Commissioner Lozano-Alvarez asked who to send suggestions for guest speakers, Chairman Bejarano said to reach out to Vice Chair Gonzalez and Commissioner Chavez.
- b. Commissioner Chavez shared she's looking into someone from the Attorney General's office to potentially come speak, Eric Zelner. Chairman Bejarano replied it could be interesting to have him present on community resources.
- c. Public Comments
 - i. Shane: Moved to Tulsa in 2018, wanted to see what the City is doing about fear in the community and concerns about birthright citizenship being taken away.
 - ii. Angelica: Reporter with Tulsa Flyer working on a story about GTAHLAC, probably coming out in the next week.

IX. Adjournment

- a. Chairman Bejarano entertained a motion to adjourn.
 - i. Commissioner Ohnesorge motioned, and Commissioner Chavez seconded.
 1. Aye: 9, Nay: 0
 - ii. Motion carried, meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm.