



## **Greater Tulsa Area African American Affairs Commission**

Regular Meeting | October 14, 2025 | 6:00 – 7:00 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, Jon Paul Ray, Jameelah Stuckey, Maybelle Wallace, Juddie Williams, Tony Williams

Commissioners Absent: Larissa McNeil, Mikeal Vaughn, Kristi Williams, Ray'Chel Wilson

#### **I. Call to Order**

- a. Chairman Dickens called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

#### **II. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- a. Chairman Dickens entertained a motion to approve the September meeting minutes.
  - i. Vice Chair Humphrey made a motion, Commissioner Ray seconded.
    1. Aye: 9, Nay: 0
      - a. Commissioners Dennis and Stuckey were not yet present in the meeting.
    - ii. Motion carried, September meeting minutes approved.

#### **III. Timeline for Nominating Committee**

- a. Commissioner Dennis arrived at 6:05 pm.
- b. Chairman Dickens notes the half pager included in meeting packets (Appendix 1), which outlines the timeline for the Nominating Committee to lead the selection of the next Chair and Vice Chair.

#### **IV. Chair / Vice Chair Report**

- a. Chairman Dickens posed two questions to commissioners:
  - i. In the committee you serve on within the Commission, how are you using your unique expertise, lived experience, or professional background to strengthen the committee's work and impact?
  - ii. In what ways are you ensuring that community voices, perspectives, and concerns are being represented and heard within your committee's discussions and recommendations?
- b. Commissioner Stuckey arrived at 6:10 pm.
- c. Commission Discussion:
  - i. Commissioner Dennis reflected on how helpful it is to know other commissioners' areas of expertise.
  - ii. Chairman Dickens encouraged commissioners to talk about where their expertise lies and several commissioners shared.



- iii. Commissioner Stuckey noted that GTAAAC's newsletter is one way the Community Engagement and Culture Promotion Committee brings in and informs the community.
- iv. Several commissioners recognized how knowledgeable fellow commissioners are in various areas.
- v. Chairman Dickens encourages commissioners to actively seek out community partnerships and collaboration to make GTAAAC's work more impactful.

**V. Discussion: GTAAAC Organization Seats**

- a. Chairman Dickens noted that several organizations that have a seat on GTAAAC currently don't have a representative. Can recommend changing some organization seats to individual seats; however, it requires an ordinance change, which goes through City Council. May also consider changing what organizations have a seat on GTAAAC. Chairs can make recommendations to Mayor Nichols, who then decides if he will appoint that organization or not. Chairman Dickens wants commissioners to know work is being done to address vacant seats.
  - i. Commissioner Ray requested a list of organizations that have a seat on GTAAAC, Dion'trae said a list will be sent.
  - ii. Commissioner Dennis asked about creating a list of prospective organizations that may be qualified to be considered for a seat. Chairman Dickens clarified that he will send a pool of potential organizations and Mayor Nichols decides which ones will be appointed.
- b. Chairman Dickens underscored the importance of having diversity of active, engaged commissioners who bring their unique perspectives and community voice to GTAAAC.

**VI. Committee Reports**

- a. Policy Recommendations
  - i. Commissioner Dennis reported the committee discussed an action plan to be well positioned to respond to future community issues and bridge information gaps. Want to host community engagement forum.
- b. Community Engagement and Culture Promotion
  - i. Commissioner Wallace shared that the committee has created a GTAAAC email list, which will share the monthly newsletter, events, and important announcements.
  - ii. Next meeting is Friday, October 17 at 11am at Rudisill Library. Will discuss ways to pivot from the spoken word contest and brainstorm additional spaces to disseminate the newsletter.
  - iii. Opportunities for commissioner input (send to Commissioner McNeil):
    - 1. Locations to distribute the newsletter
    - 2. November events to add to the next newsletter
- c. Education and Skill Building
  - i. Commissioner Stuckey reminded commissioners that the Black Educator Excellence Awards Ceremony is this month.



1. Secured a donation from QuikTrip, with additional asks pending.
2. Event has been shared in a variety of ways.
- ii. Committee is also working on op-ed about chronic absenteeism.
- iii. Commissioner Stuckey met with Emilee Taylor at Tulsa Public Schools (TPS), who is leading community engagement for TPS's next strategic plan. Working to have her speak at a future commission meeting.
- d. Human Rights Commission
  - i. Chairman Dickens shared that Commissioner Wallace will be honored as one of two 2025 Humanitarians of the Year on Thursday, December 11 at 6 pm in the City Council Chambers.

**VII. Old Business** – no old business

**VIII. New Business** – no new business

**IX. Announcements / Public Comments**

- a. Birthright Living Legacy Fatherhood Summit: November 8 at NSU
- b. Alpha Kappa Alpha Annual Breast Cancer Awareness Walk: October 18 at Lacey Park
- c. This is the final week Fulton Street Books and Coffee, a Black woman owned bookstore, will be open. They have a lineup of events this week.
- d. Old School Games on Greenwood: October 18 from 8 am – 7 pm along Greenwood Ave
- e. Public Comments:
  - i. Park Pop Out: October 25 from 4 – 6 pm at John Starks Park
  - ii. New Executive Director at Downtown YMCA introduced herself and welcomed folks to visit for a tour.

**X. Adjournment**

- a. Chairman Dickens entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.
  - i. Commissioner Ray made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Love Chandler seconded.
  - ii. Meeting adjourned at 6:51 pm.



### Appendix 1

Tentative Timeline for Nominating Committee for Presenting Officer Slate for Upcoming Year:

Tuesday of November Commission Meeting	Selection of Nominating Committee
December 1	Email to Commissioners
December 20	Final Date for Submitting Recommendations for Chair and Vice Chair
January 5	Nominating Committee Finalize Slate (by confirming willingness of referred individuals)
Monday of Week of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday session	Print copies for ballot for the number of commissioners who could be at the meeting
Tuesday Commission Session	Present slate of officers for Chair and Vice Chair positions