



---

**HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
MONDAY, October 28, 2019**

The Human Rights Commission convened in a regular meeting on Monday, October 28, 2019 at 301 West Second Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Sareta Davis called the Board Meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Chair Davis, Vice Chair Caballero, Commissioner Breckenridge, Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, Commissioner Casas, Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Museitif, Commissioner Santana, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White.

Staff in Attendance: Gail McCant, Administrator, Human Resources Department (HRD), Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office; Jonathan Babiak, Human Resources Coordinator, HRD

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL**

None.

**1. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Vice Chair Caballero announced two events occurring on Saturday, November 2, 2019: an event from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. organized by Homes Not Handcuffs and a rally beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Texas Capitol in support of Rodney Reed.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the regular meeting of September 23, 2019 were approved on a vote of 7-0: Commissioner White motion, Vice Chair Caballero second. Voting in favor were Chair Davis, Vice Chair Caballero, Commissioner Casas, Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Santana, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White. Commissioner Breckenridge, Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, and Commissioner Museitif were absent.

**3. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Discussion and possible action on scheduling the appeal filed to the Austin Human Rights Commission of the Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office No Reasonable Cause determination in Case No. HRC-CF-18-003 under City Code Chapter 5-2, Discrimination in Public Accommodations. (Caballero/G. Brown)

The Commission discussed this item. In accordance with Human Rights Commission Bylaws Article 7(E), Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White agreed to request a special called meeting for the purpose of conducting a hearing on the appeal filed to the Austin Human Rights Commission of the Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office No Reasonable Cause determination in Case No. HRC-CF-18-003 under City Code Chapter 5-2, Discrimination in Public Accommodations for November 13, 2019, at 6:00 p.m.

- b. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to City Council to recognize International Human Rights Day. (Caballero/Davis)

Karla Pascarella, International Human Rights Committee of the International Law Section of the State Bar of Texas, addressed the Commission and answered questions from the Commission. The Commission discussed this item. Chair Davis presented the draft recommendation. The Commission worked in a collaborative and informal manner to finalize the recommendation. After the draft was finalized, Chair Davis moved for adoption, Commissioner Griffith second. As amended, the Commission adopted the recommendation on a vote of 8-0. Voting in favor were Chair Davis, Vice Chair Caballero, Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Casas, Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Santana, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White. Commissioner Breckenridge, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, and Commissioner Museitif were absent.

- c. Discussion regarding Homelessness in Austin Photo campaign. (Weigel/White/Caballero)  
The Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item.

- d. Discussion and possible action to present a climate action plan to City Council. (White/Weigel)

The Commission discussed this item. The Commission took no action on this item.

- e. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to City Council to Protect and Serve the Community of People Experiencing Homelessness. (Caballero/Weigel/White/Griffith)

The Commission discussed this item. Vice Chair Caballero presented the draft recommendation. The commission discussed this item. The Commission worked in a collaborative and informal manner to finalize the draft recommendation. After the draft was finalized, Commissioner Jamarr Brown moved for adoption, Commissioner Casas second. As amended, the Commission adopted the recommendation on a vote of 8-0-1. Voting in favor were Vice Chair Caballero, Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, Commissioner Casas, Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Santana, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White. Commissioner Museitif abstained. Chair Davis and Commissioner Breckenridge were absent.

- f. Discussion and possible action to approve the 2020 meeting schedule. (Davis/Caballero)

The Commission discussed this item. The Commission worked in a collaborative and informal manner to finalize the draft schedule with the following dates: January 27, 2020; February 24, 2020; March 23, 2020; April 27, 2020; May 18, 2020; June 22, 2020; July 27, 2020; August 24, 2020; September 28, 2020; October 26, 2020; and November 16, 2020. The Commission adopted the schedule on a vote of 9-0: Vice Chair Caballero motion, Commissioner Jamarr Brown second. Voting in favor were Vice Chair Caballero, Commissioner Garry Brown, Commissioner Jamarr Brown, Commissioner Casas, Commissioner Griffith, Commissioner Museitif, Commissioner Santana, Commissioner Weigel, and Commissioner White. Chair Davis and Commissioner Breckenridge were absent.

**4. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. The Commission discussed the following key priority areas of concern for 2019-2020:
  - i. Institutional Equity
  - ii. Environment & Land Use
  - iii. Health Access & Nutrition
  - iv. Autonomy & Human Rights

**ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Caballero adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m. on unanimous consent.