CITY OF NORMAN, OK
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING
Municipal Building, Executive Conference Room
201 West Gray, Norman, OK 73069
Monday, September 28, 2026 at 5:30 PM

MINUTES

The Human Rights Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in the Executive Conference Room at the Municipal Building, on Monday, September 28, 2026 at 5:30 PM and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT
Aisha Ali, Chair (Ward 3) [arrived at 5:38 pm]
Jessica Schwager, Vice-Chair (Ward 4)
Romina Navarro Vega (Ward 6)
Phillip Moss (Ward 2)
Rachel Wyatt-Swanson (Ward 8)
Polly Henderson (Ward 1)

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT
Brandon Clark (Ward 5)

STAFF PRESENT
Anthony Purinton, Assistant City Attorney
Sarah Encinias, Legal Admin Tech

OTHERS PRESENT
Councilmember Helen Grant (Ward 4)
Michael Givel (Ward 2)

ROLL CALL

A quorum was present. Vice-Chair Schwager called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

MINUTES

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE AUGUST 24, 2026, REGULAR MEETING

Motion was made by Commissioner Moss to approve the Minutes for the August 24, 2026, regular meeting and motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Wyatt-Swanson. A vote was taken with the following results: all approved and none opposed. The Minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

ACTION ITEMS

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE 2027 MAYOR'S INTERFAITH BREAKFAST

Commissioner Navarro Vega said the proposed theme is “The Table We Build Together” and the date of the breakfast is planned for Monday, January 18, 2027, from 9:00 – 11:00 am. All members agreed to the theme. Chair Ali said she would email previous speakers asking them to save the date. The location is pending final confirmation; Ms. Holloman has been speaking with Norman Public Schools for the exact location.

Commissioner Navarro Vega said they were looking into having an outside emcee at no cost to remove some pressure from commissioners and help keep the program on track. She asked members for recommendations. She also suggested inviting a student singer from NPS. Chair Ali will look into having an interpreter from the school also. Members also spoke of ways to incorporate a sponsored contest for youth participants. Commissioners then held group discussion regarding a possible keynote speaker and using a local, minority owned vendor for the food and drink.

Members also discussed participating in the MLK parade in Oklahoma City for that afternoon. In preparation, an agenda will be posted in anticipation of there being a quorum in attendance at the event.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE 2026 HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Chair Ali asked commissioners to continue distributing posters around their wards and get the word out. Additional posters were distributed to commissioners that needed them. Chair Ali asked commissioners to later consider modifying the eligibility criteria to include posthumous nominations.

4. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON HENDERSON RECOGNITION

Chair Ali briefly went over Ms. Holloman’s idea for this topic and commissioners gave general approval. Further in-depth discussion will be held at the next HRC meeting.

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ACTION PLAN

Chair Ali asked to start the next HRC meeting with this item and requested commissioners to think about ideas for the deliverables section.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Ali had a complaint come to her directly and Commissioner Henderson had a similar experience. In both situations, the complainant was directed to the City’s website for the procedures and complaint form. Also, Chair Ali received news that the Norman Cultural Connection was asked to oversee the local process for the Charter for Compassion and that they would like an HRC member to join the initiative. Lastly, Councilmember Blodgett was asked to accept the Breast Cancer Awareness Month proclamation at the next City Council meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Public Comments: Councilmember Grant asked HRC Commissioner(s) to attend the Oversight Committee meeting in November to give a presentation about the HRC to new

councilmembers. Chair Ali said she could give the presentation. Councilmember Grant also shared an idea to honor Dr. and Mrs. Henderson in the Legacy Trails area.

ADJOURNMENT

This meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m.