

Meeting Minutes

Human Relations Commission

Regular Meeting

May 27, 2026 | 6:00 p.m.
City Council Chambers Conference Room
88 E. Chicago St., Chandler, AZ 85225



Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Agarwal at 6:01 p.m.

Roll Call

Commission Attendance

Chair Kriti Agarwal
Vice Chair Betty Ramirez
Commissioner Erica Maxwell
Commissioner Garry Ong
Commissioner Shauna Risinger
Commissioner Joacim Mattisson
Commissioner Jevan Bremby

Staff Attendance

Niki Tapia, Cultural Development Ast. Director
CC Cantabrana, Connection & Impact
Commander Dan Shellum, Chandler Police

Commissioners Absent

Commissioner Kent Lane
Commissioner Omar Rodriguez
Commissioner Pamela Morris

Scheduled and Unscheduled Public Appearances

Mark Strickling and Kristine Bartolome attended the meeting as guests of Vice Chair Ramirez to learn more about the Human Relations Commission.

Consent Agenda Motion and Vote

Commissioner Risinger made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of April 22, 2026. Vice Chair Ramirez seconded the motion. All in favor of approving the meeting minutes. (7-0).

Action Agenda

Election of New Human Relations Commission Chair and Vice Chair

Chair Agarwal expressed interest in continuing to serve as Chair of the Human Relations Commission for an additional one-year term. Commissioner Mattison moved to elect Chair Agarwal to serve as Chair through May 2027. Vice Chair Ramirez seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Vice Chair Ramirez expressed interest in continuing to serve as Vice Chair for the upcoming Human Relations Commission term. Commissioner Mattison moved to elect Vice Chair Ramirez to serve as Vice Chair through May 2027. Commissioner Maxwell seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Discussion

HRC Review Committees

The Commission held an extensive discussion regarding recommendations presented by Taylor Ducklow of BRAVER Spaces Consulting related to the establishment of Human Relations Commission subcommittees. The discussion included consideration of proposed committee structures and responsibilities designed to support the Commission's work and increase member engagement.

Commissioner Bremby moved to establish the following subcommittees: Commission Administration, Community Relations (formerly Community Operations), and Community Engagement (formerly Community Outreach). The proposed Data Analysis & Research subcommittee was tabled for future discussion. Commissioner Risinger seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

Commissioner Bremby requested that the Commission revisit at a future date whether budget-related responsibilities should be included within the Commission Administration Subcommittee.

Commissioner Maxwell also emphasized the importance of considering commissioner term expirations when structuring subcommittees to ensure continuity, representation, and sustained progress of Commission initiatives.

The following subcommittee assignments were defined:

- Commission Administration: Chair Agarwal and Commissioner Bremby
- Community Relations: Commissioners Mattison and Risinger
- Community Engagement: Vice Chair Ramirez and Commissioners Ong and Maxwell

View Attachment A for future reference.

Commissioner Participation on YouthSpark Education and Community Threads Program

CC Cantabrana shared the Fiscal Year 2025/2026 reports for the YouthSpark Education Grant Program and Community Threads Sponsorship Program. The YouthSpark Education Grant Program awarded \$23,135 in funding to 29 organizations and supported educational opportunities reaching 10,191 youth throughout Chandler. The Community Threads Sponsorship Program awarded \$12,500 in funding to five organizations to support new and emerging community events and programs that celebrate cultural expression, strengthen community connections, and promote inclusion.

For the upcoming Fiscal Year 2026/2027 funding cycle, Chair Agarwal and Commissioner Risinger volunteered to serve on the YouthSpark Education Grant application review panel. Commissioner Bremby and Vice Chair Ramirez volunteered to serve on the Community Threads Sponsorship application review panel.

Connection & Impact Updates

Niki Tapia provided an update that the Connection & Impact Division is currently evaluating and implementing a new software platform to support division operations. The software is intended to improve event management processes, application tracking, data collection, workflow efficiency, and reporting capabilities.

Niki shared that the new platform, SmartSheet, may also provide benefits to the Human Relations Commission by offering improved access to data and reporting tools. Potential uses include tracking community engagement activities, maintaining contact and organization directories, monitoring event participation, managing committee projects and assignments, collecting community feedback, and generating reports to support future Commission recommendations and decision-making. The Commission expressed interest in exploring how the platform may support its ongoing work and goals.

Chandler Police Updates

Commander Dan Shellum provided a brief update and shared that there were no significant police-related updates to report at this time.

During discussion, Commissioner Maxwell inquired about an increase in traffic speeds and speeding violations she has observed throughout Chandler. Commander Shellum acknowledged that speeding has been increasing and provided the Riggs Road corridor as an example of an area where speeding has been a notable concern. He noted that the Police Department continues to monitor traffic safety issues and enforcement efforts throughout the city.

Member Comments/Announcements

There is no regular Human Relations Commission meeting in June.

Calendar

- June 12, Miss Juneteenth Arizona Pageant, Chandler Center for the Arts
- June 13, Culture Music in the Park, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park
- July 4, Chandler's All-American Bash, Dr. A.J. Chandler Park
- July 11, For Our City Chandler Operation Back to School, Compass Christian Church
- July 22, Regular Human Relations Commission Meeting, Chandler Council Conference Room

The next regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 6 p.m., in the Chandler Council Conference Room located at 88 E. Chicago St., Chandler, AZ 85225.

Adjourn

Commissioner Ong made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Chair Ramirez seconded the motion. All in favor to adjourn the meeting (7-0).

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

CC Cantabrana, Recording Secretary

36pm36 Kriti Agarwal, Chair

HRC Commitments 2026

Future Recommendations, cont.



Recommendations #2 Subcommittees

The HRC also informally voted to potentially establish subcommittees within subject areas of focus. Establishing subcommittees would likely eliminate some of the challenges surfaced in the first workshop, including limited commission capacity, lack of role specificity, and dependence on the Connection & Impact staff.

Subcommittees are common among HRCs nationwide. The topics of subcommittees vary based on the goals, responsibilities, and organization of the HRC. Subcommittees are recommended to consist of 1-4 HRC members and may also include members of community organizations, NGO's, and local educational institutes to help meet the goals of the subcommittee.

Based on the needs and goals of the Chandler HRC, the following subcommittees are recommended. All ideas are subject to change:

Commission Administration

- 1-3 commissioners
- at least 1 chair

Responsibilities:

- Sub-committee accountability
- Maintaining commission strategy
- Board management (terms, budget)

Members:

Kriti Agarwal - Term Expires 4/30/2029
Jevan Bremby - Term Expires 4/30/2028

Community Relations

- 1-2 commissioners
- 1-2 community members (optional)

Responsibilities:

- Awareness and promotion of community groups and events and seeking underrepresented groups
- Maintaining HRC contacts

Members:

Joacim Mattisson - Term Expires 4/30/2028
Shaunna Risinger - Term Expires 4/30/2028

Community Engagement

- 3-4 commissioners
- 1-2 NGO representation

Responsibilities:

- Attend and document community events
- Invite community members to engage with HRC

Members:

Betty Ramirez - Term Expires 4/30/2029
Garry Ong - Term Expires 4/30/2027
Erika Maxwell - Term Expires 4/30/2027

Data Analysis + Research

- 2-3 commissioners
- 1 intern (optional for future)

Responsibilities:

- Maintain data collection
- Conduct commission research
- Monitor and analyze data and research for recommendations

Notes: These notes reflect updates to the Braver Spaces Consulting HRC Recommendations (Page 6) and were revised by the Human Relations Commission during its Regular Meeting on May 27, 2026. For future discussions, commissioners will consider term limits when committing to a subcommittee. Additionally, the proposed Data Analysis & Research Subcommittee will be discussed at a future meeting and no commissioner has to commit to that subcommittee at this time.

**Information updated on May 27, 2026*