



**DURHAM HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 2026 MONTHLY MEETING
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM
DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026
TIME: 6:30 PM**

MEETING MINUTES

*Members of DHRC: Commissioners Alex Gwynn, DHRC Chair, Tosh Adams, DHRC Vice Chair, Christina Crosby, Dewayne Hinnant, Mike Ross, Lottie Barnes, Amanda Borer, Harvey McMurray, Jack Holtzman, Mike Cornwell, Scott Brummel, Bailey Igoe, Lucy Lu, Kirsten Barrett, Peiyao Guo
DHRC City Council Liaison: City Council Member, Shanetta Burris*

Call to Order

Commissioner Alex Gwynn, DHRC Chair called the meeting to order at 6:44 PM.

Roll Call:

Juanita English, Senior Administrative Technician, called the roll for the meeting.

DHRC Members: (14) Commissioners Alex Gwynn, Tosh Adams, DHRC Vice Chair, Christina Crosby, Dewayne Hinnant, Lottie Barnes, Amanda Borer, Harvey McMurray, Jack Holtzman, Mike Cornwell, Scott Brummel, Bailey Igoe, Lucy Lu, Kirsten Barrett, Peiyao Guo

DHRC Member Absent: (01) Commissioner Mike Ross

DHRC Current Members: (15)

DHRC Member Seats: (17) Two (02) Seats Vacant

City Council Liaison Present: City Council Member Shanetta Burris

HNS Dept. Staff Present: Alex John, Assistant Director, Phil Jordan, Senior Human Relations Manager, Juanita English, Senior Administrative Technician

Orders of the Day

1. Ceremonial Items

Commissioner Alex Gwynn, DHRC Chair, welcomed newly appointed DHRC Member, Commissioner Peiyao Guo.

2. Public Comments (2 Minutes Per Person)

None

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Approval of Meeting Minutes for the DHRC December 2025 Meeting held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025:

Note: The DHRC December 2025 Meeting Minutes were not approved at the DHRC January 2026 In-Person Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 6, 2026, since there were not enough members in attendance for a quorum to conduct an official meeting, and therefore, there are no DHRC January 2026 Meeting Minutes to approve.

Commissioner Christina Crosby made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for the DHRC December 2025 Meeting held on Tuesday, December 2, 2025; Commissioner Scott Brummel seconded the motion; the motion was unanimously approved with fourteen (14) votes “For” the motion, zero (0) votes “Against” the motion, and zero (0) votes “Abstained” the motion.

4. Presentations (10 Minutes Each, 5-10 Minutes Q&A)

- Introduction with City of Durham Down Payment Assistance Program Administrator Sean White:

Sean White, Program Administrator of the City of Durham Down Payment Assistance Program, provided a presentation to the DHRC about the City of Durham Down Payment Assistance Program, and answered questions from DHRC members.

City Council Member Shanetta Burris, DHRC City Council Liaison:

City Council Member, Shanetta Burris, DHRC City Council Liaison, introduced themselves to the DHRC, provided a brief presentation to the DHRC about their work, and answered questions from DHRC members.

- Hayti-Reborn Justice Movement (Tentative):

There was no one present at the meeting to provide a presentation.

5. Human Relations Manager’s Report (10 Minutes)

Phil Jordan, Senior Human Relations Manager, and Alexis John, Assistant Director, provided an update on the following items.

- Updates on the request for the DHRC to review the City’s equity checklist.
- Updates regarding the City’s training opportunities, and how the DHRC can be integrated into upcoming staff training and topics.
- Request for HNS or City Sponsorship for the DHRC to complete an alternative dispute resolution (ADR) or mediation training. In the alternative, a tailored circle, facilitation on conflict resolution with Restorative Justice Durham.
- Information regarding the next appreciation event for City volunteers.
- Plans for HNS for the year.

6. Executive Committee Report (5 Minutes)

- Complete the DHRC [SURVEY](#) that was sent out for active participation in focus areas and new ad hoc committees to address the work in each area no later than Tuesday, February 3, 2026.

- DHRC Committee Chairs need to provide meeting dates, times, and locations (whether virtual or in-person) for the respective committees through June 2026, by no later than Friday, February 6th.
- A mass GroupMe and/or text message will be created so all DHRC members can stay abreast of updates and internal requests in real time.
- The DHRC Executive Committee sent a letter, survey, and the DHRC 2025 Annual Report out to other City-County BCCs that are doing work in our focus areas to foster more communication and collaboration and to also understand any policy-driven work or outreach that other boards are doing.
- The DHRC Executive Committee also sent the DHRC 2025 Annual Report to the community organizations that attended our September 2025 Meet and Greet.
- DHRC Officer Elections for Chair and Vice Chair will take place at the DHRC May 2026 Meeting, and a DHRC Nominations Committee will be appointed in April 2026.
- Juanita English, Senior Administrative Technician, announced that they were retiring from the City of Durham on Sunday, March 1, 2026, with their last day of employment on Saturday, February 28, 2026, and with their last working day on Friday, February 27, 2026. They commented that they have supported the DHRC since they were first hired on July 30, 2006, and that it has been a pleasure to serve the DHRC, and that it has been a great experience to meet and work with many different DHRC members throughout the 19 ½ years of working with the DHRC.

Reminders:

- For commissioners with Gmail, a Google drive was created that houses all DHRC documents and photos, and Commissioner Alex Gwynn, DHRC Chair, will add a place in the Google drive to track notes from community events. ([Notes from Events and Meetings - Google Docs](#))
- Presenter requests for full commission meetings must be provided at least one (1) week prior to a DHRC Executive Committee Meeting and send the requests to the DHRC Chair and Vice Chair. Per policy, agenda items are to be submitted two (2) weeks prior to the full commission meeting (“Process for Submitting Items for the Agenda,” DHRC Rules of Procedure and Powers & Duties, Section VII, Page 6). Organized groups have 48 hours to submit a request, and individuals not representing organized groups may request the right to speak from the floor (“Appearance of Groups Before the Commission” and “Rights of Individuals to Speak Before the Commission,” DHRC Rules of Procedure and Powers & Duties, Section VII, Page 6).

7. Committee Reports and Discussion (10 Minutes)

Standing Committees:

- Annual Awards Event Committee: Commissioners Tosh Adams, Committee Chair, Amanda Borer, Jack Holtzman, Committee Members
- The committee will start planning awards and recognition for 4th Quarter 2026.
- Community Outreach Committee: Commissioners Scott Brummel, Committee Chair, Jack Holtzman, Dewayne Hinnant, Harvey McMurray, Alex Gwynn, Tosh Adams, Lottie Barnes, Amanda Borer, Bailey Igoe, Lucy Lu, Kirsten Barrett, Committee Members
- Updates regarding the Duke Violence Recovery Program:
- Policies & Procedures Committee: Commissioners Harvey McMurray, Committee Chair, Mike Ross, Scott Brummel, Kirsten Barrett, Committee Members
- Committee is seeking additional and active committee members for 2026, update on DHRC members who reached out to assist with updating the policies and procedures:

Social Media/Marketing Committee: Commissioner Mike Cornwell, Committee Chair, Alex Gwynn, Tosh Adams, Committee Members

- Follow-up regarding DHRC member Bios that we currently have, New Facebook Page, whether the Old Facebook Page still exists, and creation of a LinkedIn Page: <https://www.facebook.com/share/14VgJvvJ7zb/?mibextid=wwXlfr>
- Follow-up with Commissioner Tosh Adams, DHRC Vice Chair, on a list of organizations to follow and follow back:

Ad Hoc Committee

Housing Committee: Commissioners Jack Holtzman, Lottie Barnes, Committee Co-Chairs, Christina Crosby, Mike Cornwell, Bailey Igoe, Committee Members

- Tentative date for Coffee Chat with the DPA Administrator, list of community organizations to be invited, and discussion topics:

8. Commissioner Reflections and Announcements (10 Minutes):

Reflections:

- The Ethics of Now at the Durham County Main Library hosted by Adriane Lentz-Smith, featuring Jens Lodwig, Behavioral Economist, on the causes of gun violence and strategies for prevention held on Friday, January 23, 2026:
- Community Conversations Webinar “Homelessness in Durham and the Path Forward” held on Wednesday, January 28, 2026:

Announcements:

- 21st Annual City-County Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Ceremony at First Presbyterian Church rescheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2026 at 11:00 AM until 12:30 PM.
- DHRC Meeting Presenter(s) Durham Police Department and Chief Patrice Andrews, Confirmed and In-Person at the DHRC March 2026 Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 6:30 PM:

9. New Business (30 Minutes)

- Motion for approval of the DHRC 2025 Annual Report:

Note: Please see DHRC 2025 Annual Report attached separately in email with DHRC February 2026 Meeting Packet.

- Motion to create a DHRC Race and Ethnic Relations Ad Hoc Committee to carry out the 2026 goals in the DHRC 2026 Annual Report for 2nd quarter 2026. (Committee needs at least three total active DHRC members.):
- Motion to sunset the DHRC Community Outreach Committee and create the DHRC Public Safety and Community Relations Committee to carry out the 2026 goals in the DHRC 2025 Annual Report for 3rd quarter 2026. (Committee needs at least three total active DHRC members.):
- Motion for a closed session to address administrative matters and the removal process, per DHRC Rules of Procedure & Powers and Duties, Section XI. Term of Office:

10. Old Business

- None

11. Durham Human Relations Commission Calendar

- February 2026:

February is “National Human Relations Month!”

February is “National Black History Month!”

DHRC Executive Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at 12:30 PM virtually via Zoom.

- March 2026:

March is National Women’s History Month!”

DHRC March 2026 Monthly Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 6:30 PM In-Person at Durham City Hall, Committee Room, 2nd Floor, 101 City Hall Plaza.

Adjournment

Commissioner Alexandria Gwynn, DHRC Chair