

MINUTES OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING 02/09/2026

Date: 02/09/2026 05:30 p.m.

Present: Tom Clapp, Carmen Brandt, Mary Holloway, Sarah Beth McIntire-Clapp, Sylvia Streu, Council Liaison Mike West, and City Clerk Kathie Ratliff

Absent: Norlian Vickers

Location: Fulton City Hall

DISCUSSION

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Human Rights Commission meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

There were five members present, one absent (Vickers). Quorum met.

3. COMMENTS FROM VISITORS

There were no comments.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Decision: The agenda was amended to reflect that there was no meeting held on December 8, 2025.

Consequently, the Commission reviewed and proved the minutes from the meeting held on October 6, 2025. A motion to approve the October 6th minutes was made by Mary Holloway and seconded by Sylvia Streu; the minutes were approved as presented.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

The Commission discussed ongoing projects, including the Celia Vigil and upcoming Juneteenth celebrations. Responsibility for the Celia Vigil has been transferred to the Celia Foundation, which now has its own planning committee, though the Commission will continue to serve as a co-sponsor. Regarding Juneteenth 2026, an outside committee meeting is set for February 15th and several members of the HRC plan to attend. Tom Clapp announced that Wanda Brown, a Fulton High School graduate and former Assistant Superintendent of Columbia Public Schools, is planned as the keynote speaker. The Commission hopes to co-sponsor this event with the new committee.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Jane Bierderman-Fike Humanitarian Award (2026)

The Jane Bierderman-Fike Award was discussed as a primary item of business. This award is designated for a female resident of Fulton who has made a significant impact in the community. Nominations are open until June 1st, with the award ceremony taking place at the June 23rd Council meeting. Sylvia Streu will create two Facebook posts to seek nominations, and the City Clerk will provide historical information to assist.

Fair Housing Month Discussion

The Commission discussed local activities for the month of April regarding the Fair Housing Act. Mary Holloway agreed to take the lead on this project. The Commission plans to provide fair housing coloring pages to local students through the schools. The Commission will also present awards to students for their participation and creative work.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2026, at 5:30 p.m.

9. ADJOURN

Decision: Motion was made by Sylvia Streu and seconded by Carmen Brandt to adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Kathie Ratliff
City Clerk