

City of Albuquerque
Human Rights Board
Agenda Packet
April 18, 2024



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April 18, 2024 - 5:00 PM MST

City of Albuquerque Office of Civil Rights
1 Civic Plaza
Suite 4027 (4th Floor)
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

[Zoom Meeting Information](#)

Meeting ID: 810 4907 7602
Passcode: 104123

Accommodations If you have a disability and need accommodation in order to participate in this public meeting, please contact Lisa Y. Schatz-Vance at 505-768-4524 or lschatzvance@cabq.gov. Please request any accommodation necessary at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Best efforts will be made to provide the requester with their auxiliary aid of choice. If doing so is not possible due to time constraints or other logistical concerns, the city will work directly with the requester to provide an alternate method of accommodation.



City of Albuquerque - Office of Civil Rights
1 Civic Plaza, Albuquerque, NM 87102
Phone- 505-768-4500, TTY 711
civilrights@cabq.gov

Date/Time: Thursday, April 18, 2024, starting at 5:00 pm (MST)
Location: 1 Civic Plaza, Suite 4072, & [Online via Zoom](#)
Contact: Lisa Y. Schatz-Vance, [505-768-4500](tel:505-768-4500)

City of Albuquerque Human Rights Board Agenda
(Items listed on the agenda may be discussed and acted on out of sequential order)

- 1) Call to Order & Introductions
- 2) Approvals
 - a) [Agenda](#)
 - b) [March 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes](#)
 - c) [Proposal Resolution 2024-03](#): Location Change
 - d) Publishing reformatted versions of:
 - i) [Minutes for Feb 21, 2024 HRB Meeting](#)
 - ii) [Resolution No. 2024-01](#)
 - iii) [Resolution No. 2024-02](#)
- 3) Public Comment¹
- 4) Director's Reports
 - a) Office of Civil Rights
 - b) Office of Equity & Inclusion
- 5) Resolutions & Projects Reports
 - a) R-24-1: Homeless Rights
 - i) Scheduling the Public Hearing
 - ii) Discussion on the following
 - b) R-24-2: Cease-fire in Gaza
 - i) Discussing Progress
 - ii) Next Step(s)
- 6) Discussions & Proposals
 - a) [Subcommittee Restructuring](#) & Chair Elections
- 7) Announcements
- 8) Adjourn

Please click the link below to join:

[Online Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 810 4907 7602

Passcode: 104123

Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 16, 2024**

¹ Please sign up for public comments with the Office of Civil Rights, Lisa Y. Schatz Vance [505-768-4500](tel:505-768-4500).

City of Albuquerque Human Rights Board (HRB) Minutes

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2024
Time: 5:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom & Legal West Conference Room 1

Board Members Present:

Anami Dass, Chair
Sean “Jack” Champagne, Vice Chair
Larry Hinojos Jr.
Kimberly Andujo
Leticia Galvez-Trujillo

City Staff Present:

Lisa Schatz-Vance, Board Attorney
Matthew Montoya, Assistant City Attorney/
Interim Parliamentary Counsel
Mari Kempton, Assistant City Attorney/
Parliamentary Counsel
Mariela Ruiz-Angel, Associate Chief
Administrative Officer (CAO)
Nichole Rogers, City Councilor
Maria Wolfe, Homeless Innovations Officer
Jennifer Lucero, Minute Taker

Board Members Not Present:

Samia Assed

Members of the Public:

Eric Perkins
Rosemary Blanchard

I. Call to Order & Introductions

- a. The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m. by Chair Dass.
- b. All who were present introduced themselves.

II. Approval of Agenda

- a. Chair Dass motioned to amend the agenda to move item 6b to item 5. The motion was seconded by Member Hinojos Jr. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- b. Member Andujo moved to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded by Member Hinojos Jr. The motion was approved by unanimous vote. The agenda has been approved as amended.

III. Approval of February 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes

- a. Member Andujo moved to approve the February 15, 2024 minutes. The motion was seconded by Member Hinojos Jr. Other board members unanimously approved the motion.

IV. Public Comment

- a. Public comment was made by member of the public, Eric Perkins, about his concerns regarding discrimination at the Walgreens on Central in Nob Hill. He was a paying customer requesting to use the restroom in which he was denied. He had the same issue at the Smith's on Yale. The Board suggested they will look into the laws and regulations regarding public restrooms and gave Mr. Perkins a complaint form to fill out and return.
- b. Public comment was made by member of the public, Rosemary Blanchard. Ms. Blanchard is a member of the Near North Valley Neighborhood Association Board and is a member of the Homeless Sub-Committee. She states the Near North Valley Neighborhood Association Board is concerned with the issue regarding people experiencing homelessness being mistreated. The Near North Valley Neighborhood Association Board would like to invite Chair Dass to their annual meeting in May regarding Resolution 2024-01. Ms. Blanchard addressed the board with her concern in regard to public restrooms and water foundations at community centers and other locations being shut down since the pandemic.
- c. In response to Ms. Blanchard's statement regarding fencing on private property, Associate CAO Mariela Ruiz-Angel explained that the city was not pushing the erection of fences. Ms. Ruiz-Angel received a call from Albuquerque Friends expressing interest in managing the amount of people that were staying there and not to keep people out. This conversation was misunderstood by Albuquerque Friends.

V. Proposals and Discussions

a. Resolutions Progress Reports

- i. Councilor Nichole Rogers is in attendance of tonight's meeting as the sponsor requested from the Mayor's office of Ordinance 24-5 to amend of the Human Rights ordinance.
- ii. Chair Dass stated when drafting HRB resolution number 2023-01, it was recommended to align the City's ordinance with the State's newly amended HB-207. Chair Dass noticed with the City's current ordinance, members of the LGBTQ+ community did not have protections within the ordinance and only had protections at a state level. HB-207 also included protection for pregnant people, disability rights, and switching from old language no longer being used.

b. Scheduling the Resolution 2024-01 Listening Session

- i. Board Attorney Lisa Schatz-Vance will inquire as to process and identify an appropriate room for the listening session pertaining to the resolution, as well as inquire as to process to invite City staff to attend.
- ii. Board will provide a 30-day notice of the hearing and 30 days after the hearing issue the findings in accordance to the City's ordinance. It will be up to the Board's discretion on how they wish to provide public notice.
- iii. Associate CAO Mariela Ruiz-Angel would like to see engagement with Bernalillo County Commissioners or other County officials.
- iv. City Counselor Nichole Rogers would like County Commissioners, City Counselors, Albuquerque Public School Superintendent, Dr. Ziedonis from UNM Health & Science Center, and officials from the VA to coordinate services and work together on the listening session.

- v. Homeless Innovation Officer Dr. Maria Wolfe from the Health, Housing, & Homelessness Department offered assistance with giving notice of the listening session. Dr. Wolfe also suggested having an option for people uncomfortable speaking in public such as writing a note and posting it, or for people to scan a QR code and record their comments, or to send a text in order to have a variety of ways to get input for those in attendance. She also suggested giving each individual a slot amount of time so the listening session is not dominated by certain individuals comfortable talking for a long period of time. Dr. Wolfe stated due to her previous experience, she is happy to help in any of the suggestions if needed.
- vi. The Board and City staff agree that the International District Library would be a great place for the listening session to be held due to its central location and bus route access making it easily accessible for members of the public to attend.
- vii. Chair Dass reminded the board and clarified to attending staff/officials from the City that the purpose of the public hearing was to address the mistreatment of people experiencing homelessness and not necessarily to discuss methods of housing people or connecting people to services. She further clarified that the public hearing may feature discussion of systemic issues that cause harm to people experiencing homelessness.

VI. Director's Reports

a. Office of Civil Rights (OCR)

- i. Board Attorney Lisa Schatz-Vance is currently serving in an interim role for the Office of Civil Rights while staffing is in transition. OCR is still continuing to receive complaints via website and phone, which individuals are directed out if appropriate. One case is pending where the parties are willing to enter into conciliation.
- ii. Office of Civil Rights has moved from the Legal Department and is now within the Office of Policy.

b. Office of Equity & Inclusion (OEI)

- i. OEI staff were unable to attend the meeting but did notify the board's attorney that a report will be provided at either the April or May meeting.
- ii. Associate CAO Mariela Ruiz-Angel stated her role will oversee OEI and has stated that Director Michelle Melendez has moved under the Office of Emergency Management. Dawn Begay, who is the Tribal Liaison, is currently acting Director for OEI. The Director position is posted to the website and will be interviewing over the next two weeks in plans to have a hire in April.

VII. Announcements

- a. The Albuquerque Community Safety Department has been running emergency graveyard transportation vans to shelters after 8:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. since December and depending on funding will continue to run until mid to late April.
- b. The City's winter shelter at Gateway runs from October through March and will be closing March 31st.
- c. The Health, Housing, & Homelessness Department are in the finalizing steps of a contract for the First Responder Receiving Area. The First Responder Receiving Area

- will be based at Gibson and provide transportation to shelters and to other service providers.
- d. The Health, Housing, & Homelessness Department are adding additional housing navigation center beds at Gateway this year. They are also looking at having a medical sobering center and medical rest bed as well.
 - e. The request for providers at the Westside shelter is now open.

VIII. Administrative Tasks

- a. There were no administrative tasks discussed.

IX. Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned by Chair Dass at 6:33 p.m.

Next regularly scheduled Human Rights Board Meeting will be Thursday, April 18, 2024.

Anami Dass, Chair

Date

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE
HUMAN RIGHTS BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2024-03

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To amend Board Resolution no. 2023-02 to reflect a location change for future meetings.

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WHEREAS, the Albuquerque Human Rights Board (“HRB” or “Board”) adopted Resolution No. 2023-02 on November 16, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 2023-02 specifies the location and schedule for all Board meetings in 2024; and

WHEREAS, staff members of the City of Albuquerque’s Legal Department have recommended the Board consider changing locations to use the Lower Level Hearing Room in the Basement of Plaza Del Sol (200 2nd Street N, Room 200, Albuquerque, NM 87104) for future meetings; and

WHEREAS,

NOW, therefore be it resolved by the City of Albuquerque Human Rights Board (“HRB”), the governing body of the Office of Civil Rights, that:

Section 1. CABQ HRB Resolution No. 2023-02, Section 1 is hereby amended to read;

“Unless otherwise specified, all meetings of the Board shall be held in Legal, West Conference Room 1, 4th Floor Suite of the (City Hall) Albuquerque Government Building. One Civil Plaza NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102 until May 15, 2024. Starting May 16th, 2024, meetings of the Board shall be held in the Lower Level Hearing Room of Plaza Del Sol. 200 2nd St NW, Room 200 (Basement), Albuquerque, NM 87104. Meetings start at 5:00 PM Mountain Time Zone. The Board shall continue to offer an option for teleconference attendance via Zoom.”

Section 2. Effective Date & Publication

A. The signing of the amended documents shall occur within 3 days of Board approval.

B. The online publication of the amended documents shall occur within 10 days of approval.

- 27 C. The amended Board Resolution 2023-02, once signed, is to be published to the Board
28 website in the place of the original resolution.
- 29 D. This Resolution (Resolution No. 2024-03) will be published to the Board website alongside
30 the minutes of the meeting wherein it was approved, and this resolution will not be posted
31 in the “Current Resolutions” section of the Board Website.

Proposal

Proposal for Restructuring Human Rights Board's Subcommittee

To dissolve existing subcommittees, adopt the following subcommittees, and elect 4 chairs of the subcommittees.

Subcommittees

- **Accessibility & Accountability**; tasked with holding the Human Rights Board Accountable to the community.
- **Advocacy & Representation**; tasked with engaging with the people of Albuquerque to discover areas of concern for the Human Rights Board.
- **Integration & Sustainability**; tasked with supporting community partners in need of support in the area of human rights, civil rights, or equity & inclusion.
- **Research, Investigation & Policy**; tasked with researching and investigating existing or proposed public policies in search of remedies for concerns relating to human rights.

Procedure for Operating Subcommittees

- Subcommittees will be led by the respective Subcommittee Chair for terms up to 2 years.
- A subcommittee chair may relinquish their role with the subcommittee at any time for any reason. In order to do so, the subcommittee chair is asked to inform the Board during the next possible Human Rights Board meeting, or the subcommittee chair may inform the Board Attorney via email.
- Only Human Rights Board members may serve as chair for a subcommittee, no member may serve as chair of multiple subcommittees.
- Subcommittee Chair are expected to report on any activities on their subcommittees during the regularly scheduled Human Rights Board meetings.
- The subcommittee chair may work with any board member who volunteers to contribute to the subcommittee during the Human Rights Board meeting, so long as no more than one (1) Board member and one (1) subcommittee chair are present so as to adhere to the Open Meetings Act restrictions regarding quorums.
- Rolling quorums are restricted by the NM Open Meetings Act.
- Any work of the subcommittee shall be reported to the Board during Human Rights Board meetings.
- Subcommittees may elect to publish their activities as an annual report, but are not required to.
- Any obligations of a particular subcommittee that does not have a chair may be halted or temporarily assigned to the Executive Committee¹.

- ¹ The Executive Committee meets to address any administrative or logistical concerns that do not require a quorum. The executive committee will not be altered by this proposal because it is committee, not a subcommittee.