City of Albuquerque
Office of Equity & Inclusion

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

Human Rights Board

Thursday, October 15, 2026

Members Present

- Leticia Galvez-Trujillo, Vice Chair (Zoom)
- Sara Samani
- Benjamin Tobias
- Cassandra Porter

Members Not Present

- Jack Champagne, Chair
- Killian McDonald

Members of the Public

- No members of the public were present.

City Staff Present

- Gabriela Marques, OCR-OCP Manager
- Charles Davis, City Attorney
- Joseline Segovia, OCR-OCP Program Coordinator

MINUTES

I. Call to order.

a. The Human Rights Board Meeting on October 15, 2026, was called to order by Vice Chair Trujillo at 5:17 pm. All members present introduced themselves.

II. Review and approval of agenda for October 15, 2026.

a. Vice Chair Trujillo then asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Member Samani moved to approve the agenda; Member Tobias seconded. Motion approved 4-0.

III. Review and approval of minutes from September 17, 2026.

a. Vice Chair Trujillo asked for a motion to approve the minutes from September 17, 2026. Vice Chair Trujillo edited the date to reflect September 17th. Member Tobias moved to approve minutes, Member Samani seconded. Minutes were approved 4-0.

IV. **Public Comment.**

a. None

V. **Subcommittee Reports**

a. **Accountability & Community Engagement subcommittee**

Member Porter noted that December 10th is International Human Rights Day. She proposed a morning event at City Hall entrance with free coffee and donuts to raise visibility and awareness of the HRB. For this event, the HRB will create a handout/flyer with information on human rights. City Staff Marques and Segovia offered to volunteer for the event. Member Tobias has a separate event at the same time that morning but offered to distribute HBR flyers there. The board consulted on using December 10th as a special meeting for the board to use as planning for 2027. It will be held at the OEI conference room.

2030 Census Proposal: Member Porter, who belongs to a national organization that translated new legislation into plain language for nonprofits and advocates, reported that the federal administration is planning to make changes to the 2030 Census that would count only U.S. citizens and also remove race and ethnicity questions. If this were to pass, a significant number of the population would go uncounted due to immigration status, which would negatively affect funding in many areas. Public comment on this matter will only be available until November 2nd. Member Porter identified this is a human rights concern and suggested that the HRB write a letter to City Council on the potential impact on states like New Mexico. Member Porter will send a draft letter to the members of the board, through the OCR, for the board members to review. A special meeting has been set for October 23rd at 5pm to review the letter to be sent to City Council. Vice Chair Trujillo won't be available for the special meeting but will provide notes to be incorporated.

b. Research, Investigation and Policy Subcommittee

In regards to the Housing Policy Research, Member Samani has been reviewing United Nations Human Right's policy on housing, including how cities around the world have addressed housing challenges. She will present her findings in December.

VI. Director's Report

a. Office of Equity and Inclusion

City Staff Gabriela Marques notified the HRB about OEI's upcoming Red Carpet Event on October 29th at the Hispanic Cultural Center. OEI will be releasing many Know Your Rights videos created by the Asian Pacific Islander Native Hawaiian Office.

b. Office of Civil Rights

Manager Gabriela Marques announced that the office has a new Program Coordinator, who will support OCR and OCP, Joseline Segovia. She is working on a report regarding an ongoing constituent complaint about predatory booting and towing. Gabriela Marques shared with HRB a report for Q1 of FY27 for the OCR. Marques pointed out that OCP receives almost triple the number of complaints that OCR does. The report shows that OCR had 20 intakes for Q1 FY27. OCR's complaints concentrated in housing and public accommodations categories, with disability the most common case type. OCR is working on adding additional data to the intake form such as demographic age, gender, race, and ethnicity. Member Samani inquired about OCR's follow-up procedure on complaints they don't have jurisdiction over. Marques clarified that, at the moment, there is no follow-up procedure in place for complaints, other than referring to the appropriate agency. Gabriela Marques raised the closed captioning ordinance, which falls under OCR and the HRB and requires businesses to provide closed captioning on every television. It was introduced as an ordinance by Councilor Pena and OCR will reach out for additional education of the ordinance in the coming months.

VII. New Business

a. Updates on ordinance amendment

i. No updates

Announcements

a. The 3rd Annual Substance Prevention event and Empowerment Expo are coming up. The Expo will be at APS Berna Facio Professional Development Complex on October 16th from 4-7pm. It will be an event open to the community.

b. On October 22nd from 4-7 pm, APS Healthy Halloween Health Fair. This event will feature Medicaid enrollment, immunizations, chair massages, and other activities. Open to all community members and families at APS City Center at Uptown.
c. Vice Chair Trujillo, through the McKinney-Vento program, is looking forward to this holiday season to find potential donors and reach out to adopt students for the holidays. They are looking to provide as many gifts as possible. Adoption duties are at the donor's discretion. Most common donations include clothes, shoes, gas cards, groceries, and gift cards. There is no formal process to sign up; information can be found on the APS website.
d. Member Tobias proposed having a guest speaker, Dr Sarita Cargas, come speak to the HRB for the January meeting. Dr Cargas is faculty at UNM and is part of a program that focuses on human rights and basic needs spearheaded by UNM and teaches "A Human Legacy" and "Solutions to Human Rights Problems." The HRB expressed her interest in having this guest's academic perspective.

VIII. **Adjournment**

a. There being no further business before the Board, Vice Chair Trujillo moved to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 6:21. Next HRB meeting is November 19th 2026.