

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES for CAIANA

General Meeting Date/Time: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 starting at 5:36 pm (MST)

Location: (HYBRID) Zoom and In-person at City Hall, Albuquerque, NM

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Call to Order:

- a. Chair Gleason calls for Roll Call. Attendance called for in person and virtual online Zoom.

In Attendance at 5:36 pm

Commission Members

- Kimberly Gleason (Chair) – In Person
- Commissioner Tso – Virtual
- Commissioner Antonio – Virtual
- Commissioner Martinez Looking Elk – In Person
- Commissioner Morris – Virtual
- Commissioner Chico – Virtual
- Commissioner Joe – Virtual (Joined at 5:38 pm)
- Commissioner Naranjo – Absent

City of Albuquerque

- Dillon Shije – Director, Office of Equity and Inclusion – Online
- Brandi Ahmie – Office of Native American Affairs
- Terry Sloan – Intergovernmental Tribal Liaison

- b. **Establish Quorum at 5:38 pm with Seven Commissioners present**

Chair Gleason acknowledges and clarifies that a formal quorum is met with seven commission members on the call.

- c. **Invocation**

Commissioner Martinez Looking Elk recites the opening invocation prayer.

2. Approval of Meeting Agenda

- a. Chair Gleason opens the floor for a motion to approve the review and approval of the current agenda under the Rules of Robert's.

- **Motion:** Commissioner Martinez Looking Elk moves to approve the May 13, 2026 meeting agenda.
- **Second:** Commissioner Antonio seconds the motion.
- **Vote Tally:**
 - **Yes (Approve):** 5 votes (Commissioner So, Commissioner Joe, Commissioner Chico, Chair Gleason, and Commissioner Antonio).
 - **No:** 0
 - **Abstain:** 0
- **Result:** Motion approved unanimously by voting members present.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Chair Gleason notes that there are no meeting minutes to approve during this session. The Commission previously caught up on the December 2025 minutes. January 2026 was officially canceled, February and March lacked a quorum preventing formal review meetings, and the April 2026 meeting was also canceled. The Commission remains structurally caught up on past minutes.

4. Old Business

a. Review and Approve the 2025 Commission Annual Report

- **Discussion:** The report will be submitted internally to the Mayor's staff and the City Council clerks. Staff member Brandi Ahmie clarifies that because it is an internal report rather than a public website document, it does not technically require formal ADA digital compliance formatting. If the Commission chooses to publish it online in the future, it can be edited through Adobe Acrobat first.
- **Action Items and Edits:**
 - Chair Gleason requests typographical corrections (changing "Mayor Tim Kelly" to "Mayor Tim Keller") and asks to explicitly add the tribal affiliations of the commissioners dating back through 2025 to appropriately capture past commissioners and speakers.
 - Chair Gleason additionally questions the positioning of the **Urban Indigenous Resource Center** item and notes it should be moved to a standing section under "New Updates" on future agendas.
 - Commissioner Tso requests a dedicated section regarding Missing and Murdered Indigenous Relatives (MMIR) be incorporated into the activities report.
- **Result:** No vote taken. The Commission will utilize Track Changes to edit the text. The item is held off for final approval and a formal vote at the June 2026 meeting.

5. New Business

a. Public Comment

Tribal Liaison Sloan reports that no public comments were received prior to the one-hour meeting deadline.

6. Discussion and Approval of New Action Items

a. Office of Native American Affairs & Application Updates

- **Application Backlog:** Brandi Ahmie provides an administrative overview of standard board processes versus the shifted workflow where the chair/co-chair oversee applicant tracking and initial interviews. Currently, three applications are pending review:
 - **Natalie K. Roy:** Application received in October 2025, awaiting follow-up to check continued interest.
 - **Clarice Honahni:** Resume file was unreadable by city clerks; staff requested a clean resubmission.
 - **Kinsey Ricketts:** Application successfully received on the day of the meeting.
- **Recruitment Push:** Brandi Ahmie previews an updated informational recruitment flyer to be pushed through civic engagement mailing channels to approximately 30,000 community members, alongside upcoming social media spotlights to address current sector vacancies.

7. Commission on Administrative Matters

a. CABQ ONAA Liaison and Intergovernmental Tribal Liaison Updates

1. **Ross Anderson Day:** Reported on a successful meeting alongside OEI Director Dillon Shije regarding "Ross Anderson Day" celebrations honoring record-holding Indigenous downhill skier Ross Anderson (Mescalero Apache/Arapaho/Cheyenne). City proclamations and New Mexico gubernatorial recognitions were presented.
2. **San Felipe Pueblo Consultation:** Scheduled a meeting for Friday with San Felipe Natural Resources Director Ms. Pinu'u-Stout to address jurisdictional concerns regarding the Integrated Development Ordinance (IDO), sacred site protections, and assessing historical archaeological survey certificates.
3. **Pueblo of Laguna Consultation:** Confirmed a formal consultation meeting at City Hall for June 11, 2026, between Mayor Keller and Laguna Governor Harry Antonio. The consultation is in direct response to tribal feedback that successfully expanded the municipal IDO tribal notification timeline from 15 days to 30 days. The entire CAIANA body is formally invited to attend at the Governor's request.
4. **Aviation Department Tenant Meeting:** Announced an open public tenant reintroduction meeting on May 30, 2026, at Double Eagle II Airport from 9:00 am to 11:00 am.
5. **4H Park & Cemetery Site Update:** Provided updates to Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) CEO Monique Fragua regarding a pending \$2 million redevelopment grant proposal with the Mellon Foundation for the Albuquerque Indian School Cemetery site – 4H Park. Follow-up coordination will occur with Bernalillo County before finalizing terms with Mellon.
6. **Albuquerque Indian Center (AIC) Demolition Issue:** Noted that Bernalillo County proceeded with the physical demolition of the old AIC facility without coordinating directly with the localized Native community, causing communal friction regarding the lack of a proper closing ceremony. The County has apologized and extended an offer to hold a formal blessing ceremony when they break ground on a new tiny homes' development at the location in late summer 2026.
- **Brandi Ahmie, Administrative Update on Resource Center Funds:**
 1. Detailed an administrative gridlock regarding the Urban Indigenous Resource Center. While the State allocated \$225,000 to Americans for Indian Opportunity (AIO) in 2024 through a Junior Bill request. Allocated funding can be used towards an Indigenous Resource Center in the following ways: 1. to renovate an existing city property, 2. or a feasibility study. The city continues to hold the funding, which carries a hard expenditure expiration date June 2028. Staff suggests shifting focus toward a localized feasibility study to look into site property renovations and formally removing AIO from active agenda titles for the immediate future.

8. Commission Sector Reports and Updates

- **Government** – VACANT
- **Education** – VACANT
- **Culture** – Commissioner Chico
 - Shared details regarding an upcoming three-week summer leadership cohort pilot program to launch in June 2026 in partnership with the Native Professional Advancement Center (NPAC) and the city, with plans to expand a secondary cohort in Gallup in July 2026.
- **Workforce/Employment** – Commissioner Joe
 - No standalone data report available for the current month. Formally requested her prior sector tracking notes be distributed electronically for board review.
- **Environment** – Commissioner Naranjo (Absent)
- **APCG Representative** – Vacant
- **Pueblo of Isleta Representative** – Commissioner Ron Martinez Looking Elk

- **Resignation & Board Retirement Announcement:** Formally announced his retirement from the CAIANA body effective at 7:00 pm to transition into a new appointment on the Board of Trustees for the Con Alma Health Foundation. He confirmed that his replacement, Janice Lucero (community organizer and leader), is awaiting official gubernatorial confirmation to step into the Isleta Pueblo seat.
- **Pueblo of Laguna Representative** – Commissioner Antonio
 - **Tribal Convocation Report:** Relayed that Governor Antonio held a successful audience with Governor Grisham to firmly navigate long-standing systemic resource and funding disparities impacting Laguna-Acoma within its combined municipal district. Discussions focused on creating an independent charter school option to alleviate funding blockades.
 - **Mining and Housing Action:** Outlined ongoing reclamation conferences at Route 66 seeking environmental remediation companies for old tribal mine locations. Additionally, suggested exploring HUD Section 184 urban housing coordination loops to speed up residential builds.
- **Pueblo of Sandia Representative** – VACANT
- **Pueblo of Santa Ana Representative** – VACANT
- **To-Hajiilee Representative** – Commissioner Morris
 - **Community School Milestone:** Reported on the high-profile grand opening of the new To'hajiilee Community School facility. The project secured over \$250 million via state and federal matches championed by Melanie Stansbury and Deb Haaland to fully replace the aging infrastructure dating back to 1935. Raised ongoing concerns regarding local law enforcement response times to crimes occurring on reservation boundaries.

9. Subcommittee Reports

- **Native Performing Arts and Film** – Chair Gleason
 - Shared ongoing programmatic developments with the New Mexico Creative Industries Division, NM Arts, and the Regional Development Corporation. Promoted the upcoming "Creative Con Pueblo of Pojoaque" taking place May 30, 2026, at Buffalo Thunder Resort.
 - **The Outsiders Production:** Currently directing an Indigenous youth performance of *The Outsiders* with the drama club at Bernalillo High School (which serves a 90% Native student base) in partnership with the Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA).
- **MMIW / Homeless Task Force** – Commissioner Tso
 - **MMIP Coalition Leadership:** Announced their recent election as Chair of the Missing and Murdered Diné Relatives Coalition. Highlighted recent awareness activities, including the Zachariah Bike Ride from Shiprock to Albuquerque, and a collaborative information booth at the recent Nizhoni Powwow.
 - **Pride Parade Visibility:** Confirmed that the coalition will formally march in the upcoming Pride Parade on Central Avenue on June 13, 2026, at 10:00 am to center visibility on Two-Spirit and LGBTQ+ MMIP relatives.
- **4H Park** – Commissioner Antonio

10. Adjournment

Chair Gleason calls for a motion to adjourn after confirming Commissioner Ron Martinez Looking Elk's departure at 7:00 pm and Commissioner Joe's departure at 6:20 pm.

- **Motion:** Commissioner Tso motions to adjourn the May 13, 2026 meeting.
- **Second:** Commissioner Chico seconds the motion.
- **Vote Tally:** Unanimous approval from all remaining commissioners.
- **Result:** Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Next CAIANA Meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2026, starting @ 5:30 PM.