



**Human Rights Commission
Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
February 19, 2026
City Space, 100 5th Street NE, Charlottesville, VA 22902
6:30 pm**

1. WELCOME

- a. CALL TO ORDER
 - i. Chair, Heather Roberson Gaston, called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm
- b. ROLL CALL
 - i. Present
 - 1. Heather Roberson Gaston
 - 2. Callum von Schill
 - 3. Dawn Lawson
 - 4. Elizabeth Stark
 - 5. Emily Currier
 - 6. Suzanne Lynn
 - ii. Absent
 - 1. Jayson Whitehead
 - 2. Jessica Cocciolone
 - 3. Mariane Asad Doyle
- c. MISSION (recited by all): *Act as a strong advocate to justice and equal opportunity by providing citywide leadership and guidance in the area of civil rights.*

2. MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

- a. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - i. None

3. MINUTES

- a. Review of minutes from 01/09/2026
 - i. Vote
 - 1. In favor: 1
 - 2. Opposed: 0
 - 3. Abstained: 5
 - ii. Motion to approve minutes passes
- b. Review of minutes from 01/15/2026
 - i. Vote
 - 1. In favor: 6
 - 2. Opposed: 0
 - 3. Abstained: 1
 - ii. Motion to approve minutes passes

4. BUSINESS MATTERS

- a. CHAIR UPDATE
 - i. Chair reminds Commissioners to share the HRC Focus Area Survey as much as possible

- ii. Introduction of new Commissioners
- b. OHR STAFF REPORT
 - i. HRC Survey is live and there are currently 86 responses
 - 1. The survey closes February 23rd at midnight
 - 2. Commissioners are encouraged to continue sharing it
 - ii. Data in the OHR Monthly Report is up to date

5. WORK SESSION

- a. HRC Vice Chair Election
 - i. Chaired by the Director during the officer election process
 - ii. Nominating Committee presents slate of nominees:
 - 1. Elizabeth Stark: Vice Chair
 - iii. Floor nominations:
 - 1. None
 - iv. Suanne makes a motion to nominate Elizabeth for Vice Chair
 - 1. Heather seconds
 - 2. Elizabeth accepts nomination
 - 3. Vote
 - a. In favor: 6
 - b. Opposed: 0
 - c. Abstained: 0
 - 4. Motion to elect Elizabeth as Vice Chair passes
 - v. Chair resumes meeting
- b. Discussion of public hearing procedure for Case 2025-2
 - i. Director provides overview of process for upcoming appeal hearing and answers Commissioners' questions regarding the hearing process
 - ii. Director encourages Commissioners to look at Section 2-439.1 of the Charlottesville Human Rights Ordinance for additional information
 - 1. Director will also provide an in-depth procedure once approved by the City Attorney
 - iii. Commissioners discuss whether to hold the hearing with the full Commission or with a panel of three or more Commissioners
 - iv. Motion to hold hearing by a panel of Callum, Dawn, and Elizabeth
 - 1. Vote
 - a. In favor: 6
 - b. Opposed: 0
 - c. Abstained: 0
 - 2. Motion to approve panel passes
- c. Commissioners review the 2025 HRC Work Plan for next steps
 - i. The HRC Annual Planning Meeting will be held on March 5th at 5:30pm in the Parks and Recreation Conference Room

6. MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

- a. PUBLIC COMMENT
 - i. None
- b. COMMISSION RESPONSE TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC
 - i. None

7. COMMISSIONER UPDATES

- a. Commissioners share information about upcoming community events

8. NEXT STEPS

- a. Todd

i. Share documents related to the Public Hearing for Case 2025-2

9. ADJOURN

a. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm