

City Human Relations Commission - Monthly Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2026, 5:30 P.M.

Location: Allentown City Hall, Council Chambers

Recorder/Secretary: Krissi Echevarria

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Time called to order: 5:31 P.M.

Presiding Officer: Tinku Khanwalkar, Vice Chair

Name	Role/Position	Present	Absent (Unexcused)	Excused
Craig Beavers (he/him)	Chair	☐	☐	☒
Tinku Khanwalkar (she/her)	Vice Chair	☒	☐	☐
Krissi Echevarria (they/she)	Secretary	☒	☐	☐
Jose Rivera (he/him)	Commissioner	☒	☐	☐
Travis Bonney (he/him)	Commissioner	☒	☐	☐
Michael (Mike) Daigle (he/him)	Commissioner	☒	☐	☐
Krista Brown-Ly (she/her)	Commissioner	☒	☐	☐
Kumari Ghafoor-Davis (she/her)	City Representative	☐	☐	☒
Sarah Rotz (she/her)	City Representative	☒	☐	☐
Adam Rosenthal (he/him)	City Representative	☒	☐	☐

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

Were the previous minutes approved as written? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Motioned to approve: Mike, Seconded: NAME, 6/6; Approved.

Discussion: change the final bullet point to “the agreement discussed between city and county.” With this edit, the minutes are approved.

4. Courtesy of the Floor/Public Comment (Non-Agenda items)

No discussion from the public.

5. Remarks from Commissioners/Committee Updates

Report From	Key Points	Motions/Actions Proposed	Approved /Outcome
Outreach Committee	Still waiting on a meeting date but outreach ideas have come up in other committee meetings.	N/A	
Rules and Regulations Committee	- Met on 5/27/2026. - Within the definition of “owner”: Change “county” to city in Section 27-12	Motion to advise City Council to make updates to the language as discussed.	Motion by Mike, seconded by Travis;

	• Section 27-20(E): “any commission member whom without justification misses a meeting” • Would like to keep the ordinance up to date with state and federal regulation on an ongoing basis- section 27.27-J: “The department of law shall provide advice to the HRC as requested and should keep the HRC updated on the implementation of laws that would affect this ordinance” • Found that the ordinance does not need to be modified to include the county taking jurisdiction of complaints that involve the city. We can simply do this without updating the ordinance. No additional discussion or disagreement. • Do not recommend including “volunteer” within the ordinance’s definition of ‘employee’ ○ Discussion: this shows a gap in protections for the ordinance. How can we work to update the ordinance to fill this gap? ○ Needs to be added back to agenda for further discussion • The use of Cash, section 27-6: “Need to provide reasonable accommodation if you are not accepting cash payment for transactions	Add volunteer protections discussion to the next meeting agenda (July).	Approved 6/6.
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	For future discussion: This ordinance goes beyond state and federal law and thus should it be modified to match up more accordingly with state and federal law?		
Nominations Committee	- Proposal for the use of social media and that outreach committee will work on getting it running. Outreach would manage it but all commissioners would be contributing members. - Proposal for commission size and recruitment plan: aiming for 9 voting members by the end of 2026. Also aiming to engage 3 ex-officio members (District rep and two students) through consistent attendance by the end of 2026 - Committee will meet quarterly on the first Tuesday of the month. Next meeting is Tuesday 9/2. - Commission can recommend nominees to the mayor, but we cannot reject the mayors approved nominees?	Recommend the outreach committee work to establish social media for the commission. Will return to the nomination process discussion for clarity once commission chair is present. Add to July agenda.	
Investigations Committee	Discussed current complaint that is being processed. Waiting on continued correspondence. No recommendations at this time.	N/A	N/A

6. Old (Unfinished) Business

Topic	Discussion Summary	Motions/Actions Proposed	Vote/Outcome
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Allentown School District Coordination	Discussion of 3 missed meetings by school board rep, need for new nominee. Is the school board rep a voting member or an ex-officio? Do the rules apply to him then?	For July meeting: Determine whether or not the school district representative is a member of the commission such that that member falls in the parameters of section 27.20e and can be removed from the commission? Then follow protocol for removing commissioners.	N/A
City Staff Coordination	- Follow up on Thurmond amendment. Sarah sent Chair, Vice Chair, and secretary the notes of this research. We will bring it to next meeting. - Still waiting on the appropriate point of contacts for various city departments.	For July meetings: How do we want to consider the Thurmond Amendment in relation to our city ordinance? Who are the city department contacts we need to Liaison with?	

7. New Business

Topic	Discussion Summary	Motions/Proposed Actions	Vote/Outcome
Coordination w/Tri-State Human Relations Commission	Tabled for next meeting.		

9. Good of the Order

- N/A

10. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn: Mike , Second: Krissi

Time adjourned: 6:46

Next meeting: July 2, 2026 at 5:30 P.M.

Secretary Signature: *Krissi Echevarria* | Date: 6/4/2026

Agenda Submission deadline: 6/25/2026