



One City for All People

**Full Commission Meeting – Minutes**  
**Monday, April 1, 2024, 4:00pm - 5:30pm**  
**Howard Office Building**  
**Sonny West Auditorium**  
**700 2nd Ave. S., Nashville, TN 37210**

*The mission of the Metro Human Relations Commission is to protect and promote the personal dignity, peace, safety, security, health, and general welfare of all people in Nashville and Davidson County.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm by Chair Abolfazli.

Commissioners in attendance:

Chair Maryam Abolfazli, Charles Traughber, Ben Tran, Irwin Venick, Garlinda Burton, Genma Stringer-Holmes, Dr. Amy Charlton, Ariel Safdie, Pratik Dash, Jeff Teague

Commissioners absent:

Edebina Arce, Dakota Galban, Marcus Buggs, Larea Kwakye, Alecia Wynn, Kosar Kosar

Staff in attendance: Davie Tucker, Ashley Bachelder

Attorney in attendance: Matthew Garth

**2. CONFIRM QUOROM**

Quorum was confirmed.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Venick. They were approved; no edits.

**5. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

ED Tucker stated that there is \$40,000 savings in the budget earmarked for programming.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

- Pre-Hearing Committee update
  - Commissioner Traughber, Chair of the Pre-Hearing Committee, reported that they are working towards conciliation with all involved parties. Attorney Mel Fowler-Green was asked to meet with the attorneys from the Arts and Legal dept.'s. The

committee is currently working to establish a list of witnesses and prepare questions for them.

- Metro Arts Title VI complainant response(s)
  - According to Ashely Bachelder, the complainants expressed concerns about past decisions made concerning the Thrive program. They also expressed concerns about Metro's commitment to supporting and prioritizing anti-racism initiatives.
  - The Commission discussed responding to the letter written by Finance Director Crumbo.
  - Commissioner Tran made a motion to adopt the written response to be sent to the mayor and the Council. The motion was approved with no abstentions.
  
- Executive Committee vacancy
  - Commissioner Safdie's term as the treasurer expires on 04/18/2024. Commissioner Teague will fill the position until another commissioner is appointed by the Nominating Committee.
  
- Community engagement

#### 7. **OLD BUSINESS**

- Commissioner vacancies and nominations
  - Commissioners were asked to send names for potential nominees to staff.
- Compliance officer search

#### 8. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### 9. **ADJOURN**

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Tran. The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm.

The meeting recording can be accessed [here](#).

#### **Appeal of Decisions from the Metro Human Relations Commission**

If you are not satisfied with a decision of the Metropolitan Human Relations Commission, you may appeal the decision by petitioning for a writ of certiorari with the Davidson County Chancery or Circuit Court. Your appeal must be filed within 60 days of the date of the entry of the Human Relations Commission's decision. We advise that you seek your own independent legal advice to ensure that your appeal is filed in a timely manner and that all procedural requirements have been met.



If any accommodations are needed for individuals with disabilities who wish to be present at the meeting, please contact MHRC at 615-880-3370 or [MHRC@nashville.gov](mailto:MHRC@nashville.gov). Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting for the entity to provide such needed aid or service.