



**HUMAN RELATIONS DIVERSITY BOARD**

1 N. Bluford Avenue  
Ocoee, Florida

**July 3, 2025**

**AGENDA**

**6:15 PM**

**• CALL TO ORDER**

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

1. Read aloud Mission Statement - "The general mission of the Human Relations Diversity Board ("HRDB") is to promote understanding, respect, goodwill, and equality among all citizens and businesses of the City of Ocoee."

**• APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Minutes from June 5, 2025

**• OLD BUSINESS**

**• NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion: August Speaker

**• DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**• PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**• ADJOURNMENT**

**Notice:** Any person who desires to appeal any decision at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings and for this purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made which includes testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is based. In accordance with Florida Statute 286.26: Persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings should contact the Office of the City Clerk, 1 N. Bluford Avenue, Ocoee FL 34761, (407) 905-3105, 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

More than one Commissioner may participate or hear discussions regarding a matter which will come before the Commission for action.



# HUMAN RELATIONS DIVERSITY BOARD

1 N. Bluford Avenue  
Ocoee, Florida

June 5, 2025

## MINUTES

6:15 PM

- **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Beck** at 6:15 p.m. in the Commission Chambers of City Hall located at 1 N. Bluford Avenue, Ocoee.

**Chair Beck** led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of personal reflection. **Recording Clerk Torres** proceeded with the roll call and confirmed the presence of a quorum.

Present: Chair Beck, Vice-Chair Maxwell (arrived at 6:45 p.m.), Member Cummings, Member Singh, Member Mellen and Member Henderson

Absent: None

Also Present: Parks and Leisure Services Assistant Director Gaines, and Recording Clerk Torres

First line of Mission Statement was read by **Chair Beck** “The general mission of the Human Relations Diversity Board ("HRDB") is to promote understanding, respect, goodwill, and equality among all citizens and businesses of the City of Ocoee.”

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of Minutes for the HRDB meetings held on April 3, 2025, and May 1, 2025

**Motion: Move to approve April 3, 2025, and May 1, 2025, Minutes; Moved by Member Mellen, seconded by Member Cummings, Motion carried unanimously.**

**Chair Beck** welcomed Member Henderson as the newest appointee on the board.

- **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Q3 and Q4 2025 Goals and Objectives**

**Chair Beck** shared that she followed up with Kavita Sawh regarding potential topics for future board presentations. Two topics were suggested: Veterans Affairs and Multilingual Outreach. **Member Mellen** expressed support for the Veterans Affairs topic. **Chair Beck** noted that the speaker would need to be scheduled for the August meeting, due to the July 4th holiday.

**Member Henderson** inquired about events, and **Chair Beck** clarified that the board does not plan events; those are managed by the city. She also informed Member Henderson about DEI-related posts the board shared on the City's Facebook page in 2024, as well as the DEI brochure that was distributed through the City's water bill mailing.

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**Fourth of July Block Party – July 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Family Recreation Day – July 19<sup>th</sup>**

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**Joseph Richardson**, a member of the VoxPopuli advisory board, addressed the board regarding a National Day of Reason resolution he proposed to the City of Winter Garden. The resolution was intended as an inclusive alternative to the National Day of Prayer, particularly for individuals who do not follow a specific religion. He noted that Winter Garden ultimately rejected the proclamation.

*Vice-Chair Maxwell arrived at 6:45 p.m.*

**Chair Beck** shared that the mayor has indicated he would permit non-secular invocations prior to City meetings. **Norine Dworkin**, Chief Editor of VoxPopuli, also commented, stating she had previously presented a proclamation and felt that the City of Ocoee is taking steps toward allowing a broader range of invocations, beyond just Christian ones, before meetings.

**Vice-Chair Maxwell** informed the board of the passing of the mayor's firstborn and shared details about the upcoming service. He also expressed his appreciation for the speaker who presented at the May meeting. **Vice-Chair Maxwell** mentioned that he had spoken with Minuteman Press regarding printing paper copies of the 2020 Day of Remembrance booklets for residents. **Chair Beck** requested that he bring an estimate to the July meeting for consideration.

Additionally, **Vice-Chair Maxwell** suggested that the History of Ocoee book be reproduced. He noted that while the City could authorize the reproduction, a digital copy would first need to be located.

**Adjournment:** meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

ATTESTED:

APPROVED:

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Recording Clerk

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Chairperson