

HUMAN RELATIONS DIVERSITY BOARD

1 N. Bluford Avenue
Ocoee, Florida

December 4, 2025,

MINUTES

6:15 PM

- **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by **Chair Beck** at 6:15 PM 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, Member Singh, Member Mellen and Member Smith

Absent: Member Henderson

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 meeting held October 2, 2025.

Motion: Move to Approve Minutes from October 2, 2025, Meeting; Moved by Vice Chair Maxwell, seconded by Member Smith, Motion carried unanimously.

- **OLD BUSINESS**

1. "Discover Ocoee" video update

Chair Beck provided the board with an update on the video project. She noted that she would like to extend the submission period to receive additional entries. She also shared that Parks and Leisure Services Assistant Director Gaines posted the submission information on the city's website and Facebook page. To date, three entries have been received. **Chair Beck** stated that she will connect with colleagues in the press to help promote the project and encourage more submissions.

Motion: Move to allow submissions for the video until January 23, 2026, Moved by Chair Beck, seconded by Member Smith, Motion carried unanimously.

The Board then viewed the submissions received to date. **Chair Beck** shared that she had spoken with Norine from VoxPopuli about featuring the video to help increase visibility and encourage additional submissions. She also asked Board members to reach out to friends and neighbors to help promote participation. **Member Smith** suggested that the Board could submit a video as well, which prompted Chair Beck to add that she would like to see the Commission participate. **Chair Beck** further stated that the Board could recognize selected participants with certificates of appreciation. This item will be revisited at the February meeting to review and confirm associated costs.

- **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Rescheduled Election Due to Administrative Oversight

Recording Clerk Torres explained that the regular election for Chair typically takes place each June; however, this year the election was overlooked. As a result, the election needed to be conducted at this meeting to complete the current term through June 2026.

Motion: To maintain the current elected Chair and Vice Chair; Moved by Member Mellen, seconded by Member Smith, Motion carried unanimously.

2. Q1 2026 Goals and Objectives

Chair Beck stated that UCF will be able to present on all three topics: Neurodivergence, English Language Learners (E.L.L.), and the unhoused population. She asked the Board to determine the most appropriate timing for the speakers. The Board agreed on March, June, and September, with March designated for Neurodivergence, June for English Language Learners (E.L.L.), and September for the unhoused population.

- **DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Parks and Leisure Services Assistant Director Gaines stated that the city held a successful Veterans Day event and recognized Vice Chair Maxwell for serving as the guest speaker.

Jolly Jamboree – December 13th
MLK Parade – January 19th

- **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.

ATTESTED:



Recording Clerk

APPROVED:



Chairperson