



TOWN OF CARRBORO • NC  
FACING RACE, EMBRACING EQUITY

## **Racial Equity Commission Meeting Minutes**

February 25, 2026 - 6:00 pm

Zoom meeting

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hawkins at 6:11 p.m.

### **Attendance**

Members present: Alston, Atwater, Carter, Davis, Foushee, Hawkins, and Lewis

Guests: Addison Gentle, Tiz Giordano, Deysia Oakcrum, Ruby Sapp and Zoe Shipley

Staff Liaison: Joiner and Jones-McNair

Staff: Amy Armbruster, Climate and Sustainability, Town Managers Office Department

### **Introduction of Guests**

Completed.

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes for January 28, 2026**

Foushee motioned to approve the minutes. Atwater seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. The motion carried.

### **REAL Review**

Climate Action REAL – Completed

Armbruster provided a summary of the REAL. Highlights included importance of the work and intersectionality of ADA requirements, flood risk hazards, affordable and accessible housing, quality issues and the management of Storm Chantal. She also emphasized the climate gap – affluent area within the center of town versus the southern sector, inclusion of solar panels to increase value and decrease energy

bills, green gentrification and how it drives up property values that may cause displacement of long term residents. The Climate Action plan has ambitious goals for 2030.

## **Discussion**

### Truth plaque for Rogers Road Community

Rev. Campbell and Mr. Caldwell were invited to the meeting to discuss this matter further. They were not in attendance. The commission agreed to pause this project.

### Truth Plaque for Hilliard Caldwell

Emphasized that a recognition for Mr. Caldwell should be more than a wall or plaque inside the building because he has done so much for the community. Several questions were asked about whether school facilities could be named/renamed. Also wondering about an update of the school district.

Here is the recap of what was discussed in January -

It was suggested that placing a plaque inside a Town facility or naming a room in Town Hall would be more meaningful than installing a plaque along a highway or roadway. Additional suggestions included:

- Naming a room in the Drakeford
- Creating a wall honoring prominent historical figures who have made significant contributions to civil rights and the public sector, potentially a “Civil Rights Wall of Honor”

Members noted that a plaque placed inside a single room might not be visible enough to achieve the intended recognition. The Commission discussed whether to consider a formal motion to establish a wall honoring individuals who have contributed significantly to the Town.

It was decided to continue discussion, draft guidelines, and move thoughtfully rather than rushing the recognition process for Hilliard Caldwell.

### Make-up of commission member seats

Tabled until next meeting.

### Tabling at Earth/Carrboro Day – Sunday April 19 noon – 4p

Tabled until next meeting.

## **Agenda Items for Next Meeting**

- Review of REALS
- Discussion

Tabling at Earth/Carrboro Day – Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 4p  
Make-up of commission member seats and recruitment  
Recognition for Alderman Hilliard Caldwell

## **Updates and Announcements**

Lillie Atwater passed – former member of the commission and long time resident.

## **Adjournment**

Vice Chair Foushee motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40p. Davis seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous. The motion carried.