



RACIAL EQUITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

March 7, 2023

CALL TO ORDER:

The Racial Equity Commission met in person at City Hall, in accordance with State and Federal guidelines. The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Chair Kesha Hamilton.

ROLL CALL:

Present: L. Albarran, J. Barber, D. Hammontree, K. Hamilton, J. Willis, M. Johnson Jr.

Absent: Jacob Inosencio, Daveda Quinn, Katima Dickerson

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Read by Chair Hamilton

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

Chair Hamilton asked for a motion to accept the agenda, motion made by Leticia Albarran. second by John Willis

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Visitor: Nancy Connell, Women's League Voters stated that the Women's League of Voters, has an Observer Cor. They attend meetings to make sure they are open. They also choose an issue to advocate for and look to community organizations with questions.

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Chair Hamilton asked for a motion to accept the previous meeting minutes. Motion to suspend Jan & Feb until April. Motion made by John Willis and second by Leticia Albarran

COMMUNITY LIAISON POLICE OFFICER REPORT:

Dep. Chief Ortiz: David Stallwell attended a Mental Health Summit. The department has 3 officers (David, Brian & Erin) who are a part of their Mental Health Division. A service training will be offered next week on Emotional Intelligence and De-escalation. 2 Cadets have been hired one black, one white. 2 officers have submitted their resignation, one will move on to another department in his area and the other one is moving on to another line of work. Of the 49 officer's positions, currently, there are 3 openings.

Chair Hamilton offered a thank you to the department, for their quick response to the incident at Jackson High School.



COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Board Development – Jackie will reach out to the Akron REC to plan a field trip to their company. Our budget dollars must be spent by June 30th no exceptions.

Policy and Procedure – March 15 scheduled meeting, City Code language discussed. Brainstormed the rest of the meeting. David has a list of new agenda items. Looking at the Cities Code Language regarding Katima living outside of the limits.

Housing and Mobility – None

Public Communications – None

Grants – Dept. Of Justice have grants to apply for Racial Equity projects, John will forward information limited amount for City or County. Doner account established. Amount of grant dollars goes up to \$400,000. City and Counties amounts are limited and with the number of grants being offered, this is a good time to apply. Currently, we have a donor account established.

Education – trying to schedule a meeting.

Racial Equity Complaint Procedure – working on scheduling a meeting. Kesha mention some folks in the community to bring on for the sub-committee. John will review our ordinance to ensure that we are following the guidelines, in placing individuals on our committees. Ordinance also states that an elected member, must not be in default with the city.

Nominations

General Outreach List – Work on filling our list of candidates for our commission. Leticia reached out to 2 applicants, currently waiting to hear back from them. Kesha also gave another name to follow-up with.

Interview Updates - 2 interviews last week for subcommittee positions. Melinda Cooper, currently working as a Harm Reduction Manager and Dejaun Bradshaw. Motion to invite them to the sub committees by J. Willis, Second by Freddie Dancy. Discussion took place regarding placement/recommendations for committee positions. John will follow up with City Manager.

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City Report Update – Discussion took place regarding contracts for mowing City Lots. Freddie stated that one contractor is on his last year of a four year agreement. A conversation will take place with the City Manager regarding, how contracts are renewed and distributed.



OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Strategic Planning Buildout**
- b. Planning for 1 day Conference** - Offering community trainings, plan for dates throughout the year. Possible date for the first one: September 21st 6:00 - 8:00pm. Suggestions will be taken regarding speakers. Topic: “Racial Equity” possibly Town Hall meeting as a “Conversation amongst speakers and guest. Commissioners will come back in April with speaker suggestions.
- c. Annual Report Review** – Creating a brochure with a resource guide, our role as a commission, how you can get involved, pictures, Links to surveys for education, highlights for our meet & greet and Summit. Also educating ourselves regarding Racial Equity. Jackie will send out the link to the 21-day Racial Equity Challenge from United Way.
- d. Land Acknowledgement Conversation** – 2 suggested acknowledgements were read language will be adjusted to meet our Commission.

NEW BUSINESS:

COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS

Freddie stated that people who attended the meet & greet, request the notes that were submitted regarding Racial Equity. Do we want to share with organizations.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Freddie Dancy, second by Leticia Albarran

Next Meeting Tuesday April 4, 2023