



RACIAL EQUITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 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 4:00 p.m. by Chair Kesha Hamilton.

ROLL CALL:

Present: DEI Officer John Willis, Chair Kesha Hamilton, Vice Chair David Hammontree, Secretary Jacqueline Barber, Commissioners: Daveda Quinn, Freddie Dancy, Jacob Inosencio, Katima Dickenson, Leticia Albarran and Michael Johnson Jr. Absent Heather Truman

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Acting Chair John Willis opened the floor up for nominations.

President – Keisha Hamilton, accepted

Vice Chair – David Hammontree, accepted

Secretary – Jacqueline Barber, accepted

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, all accepted.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Guest – Nancy Connell, League of Women Voters, Jennifer Biddinger & Jason Ganzhorn, Jackson Police Department

APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Chair Hamilton asked for a motion to accept the previous meeting minutes from December. John Willis motioned that the minutes be approved at next month meeting, Jacob seconded it and motion was accepted by all commissioners present.

COMMUNITY LIAISON POLICE OFFICER REPORT:

Officer Ganzhorn shared that JPD is putting on an active shooter training for JPS schools over the next couple of months. JPD participated with numerous “shop with a cop” events. JPD collected money to provide Christmas presents for a couple of families in need. (GVI) Group



Violence Intervention Cheryl Ragland provided dinner to 3 families impacted by violent crime. Officer Vernier graduated the police academy and has started FTO. Officer Reasoner just started 2nd phase. Officer Goble just finished FTO and started on his own. Sgt. Stanton is starting Staff and Command this month, a 10-week leadership class through MSU. 1 Cadet position is vacant.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chair K. Hamilton ask that each committee chair to host a meeting this month, elect new chairs, goals for each committee, how often committees will meet provide a rotating schedule of commissioners to attend JPS monthly board meetings. Each committee must provide K. Hamilton with a summary by February 7, 2023.

Quorum and attendance issues were asked that we may begin to write standards for.

Board Development – Chair K. Hamilton suggested a possible field trip to Akron, to visit their Racial Equity Commission.

Policy and Procedure – Purchasing manual has been updated and reviewed by John Willis and City Manager. Manual is possibly ready for City Council’s review and approval.

Housing and Mobility – John Willis met with Mike Brown (JTA) regarding families living at the Travelodge, not having access to public transportation. Any solutions to this problem will be presented to the County as an option.

Public Communications – It was suggested that the city look at hiring a Non-Profit Coordinator. This person would direct people to the appropriate company/agency for needed services.

Grants – John received some grants that he will get to the committee, Jacob also forwarded a link to J. Barber for a possible grant from Jackson Community Foundation.

Education – Needs a Chair for this committee. Discussion about the quorum issues, Willis and Hammontree offered to step off but will be rotating members attending meetings every other month.

Racial Equity Complaint Procedure – This committee is about information sharing.

Facing Race Conference Updates?

OLD BUSINESS:

RFQ Equity Audit goes to City Council February 7, 2023. Currently looking at Benchmarks, goal is to change practices and behaviors.



Update on MLK Boulevard Roundabout committee – Chair K. Hamilton suggested that the committee bring the artist in to interact with people. 4 sculptures were presented at a meeting and are ready to go to City Council for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

Each committee will provide the Chair with a paragraph, regarding their committee for the Annual Report by February 7th.

Strategic Planning dates – Commission will meet on January 25th from 5:00-9:00. Location will be determined.

Planning for Spring Summit – A date in April will be determined. Planning committee members are, Hamilton, Barber, Albarran, Willis & Dickenson.

Tentative Agenda:

- 8:00-8:30 – Registration (Breakfast)
- 8:30 – Welcome & Land Acknowledgement
- 8:45-9:15 – Ice Breaker Activity
- 9:15-10:00 – Conversation “Fly on the Wall”
- 10:00-10:15 – Break
- 10:15-10:30 – Art presentation
- 10:30-12:00 – 2 breakout sessions
- 12:00-1:00 – Lunch & Speaker
- 1:00 – End of day

Attendees will receive a packet.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Chair K. Hamilton thanked the commissioners for their support and allowing her to lead the REC.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn, at 5:23pm. Motion made by Commissioner Dancy and seconded by Commissioner Inosencio. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Willis, Quinn, Hamilton, Dickerson, Rodriguez and Barber, Johnson, Hammontree. Nay: None, Motion carried. No discussion.