



## **RACIAL EQUITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

July 8, 2021

### **CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chair Kesha Hamilton.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Present: John Willis, Kesha Hamilton, Daveda Quinn, Donita Bentley, Freddie Dancy, Daniel Mahoney, Lee Hampton, and Bethsemame Williams.

Absent: None.

### **READING OF LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

Land Acknowledgement read by Chair Kesha Hamilton.

### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A motion to amend the agenda was made by Commissioner Willis and seconded by Commissioner Dancy. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Agenda items added: Public Communications Committee was added to committee reports and request for a recorder was added to new business.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

None.

### **APPROVAL OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**

A motion to approve June's meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Dancy and seconded by Commissioner Bentley. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

### **COMMUNITY LIAISON POLICE OFFICER REPORT:**

No report – Liaison on vacation.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- a. **Board Development Committee** – No report.
- b. **Policy and Procedure Committee** – No report.
- c. **Contract and Purchasing Committee** – No report.
- d. **Nominating Committee** – The committee met and discussed ways to recruit new members.
- e. **Public Communications Committee** – The committee met and discussed working on an informational sharing campaign. We plan to have community listening sessions to educate the community about the Racial Equity Commission. The committee plans to collaborate with the Councilperson of each ward and attend ward meetings. Each Commissioner was assigned a Councilmember to contact and report back to Chair Hamilton by Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, Ward #5 Karen Bunnell and Ward #2 Freddie Dancy wants to meet in September. Commissioner Bentley suggested a one-pager about the Racial Equity Commission. The Commissioners will have a table at the Summer Fest in July and August.
- f. **Housing and Mobility Committee** – Commissioners Dancy and Quinn toured the Albert Kahn Apartments. They have 73 nice units for low to moderate income based residents. They also accept Section 8 Vouchers. Commissioner Willis stated the HRC also works with housing issues.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### **2021 STRATEGIC PLAN – SWOT ANALYSIS**

#### **Strengths:**

- Community support
- Known community leaders
- Diverse backgrounds/skills/abilities
- Diverse connections

#### **Weaknesses:**

- No economic authority
- Lack of a sufficient budget
- Lack of public awareness and support
- City affiliated organization

**Opportunities:**

- Direct access to city leaders/policy makers
- Opportunity to model equitable practices and historical significance
- Ability to change the seats at the table
- Current social justice climate

**Threats:**

- Racism
- Inability to impact others without support (support financially)
- Gaslighting/misinformation
- Critical race theory viewpoints

**KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

- Scheduled listening sessions
- Determine public messaging
- Deliverable one-pager
- Deliverable banner
- Completed foundational questions for the Racial Equity Action Plan

A motion to purchase a banner was made by Commissioner Bentley and seconded by Commissioner Mahoney. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the 2021 Strategic Plan was made by Commissioner Mahoney and seconded by Commissioner Bentley. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

**ELECTED CHAIRPERSON FOR EACH COMMITTEE****Board Development Committee**

Commission Dancy was elected as chairperson.

**Policy and Procedure Committee**

Commission Bentley was elected as chairperson.

**Contract and Purchasing Committee**

Commission Mahoney was elected as chairperson.

**Nominating Committee**

Commission Quinn was elected as chairperson.

**Public Communications Committee**

Commission Hamilton was elected as chairperson.

**Housing and Mobility Committee**

Commission Quinn was elected as chairperson.

## **NEW COMMISSIONER SELECTION**

A motion to accept the recommendation of the nominating committee was made by Commissioner Bentley and seconded by Commissioner Dancy. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy. Nays: none. Motion carried. The recommendation will be sent to City Council for approval.

## **RACIAL EQUITY ACTION PLAN REVIEW**

After review of the GARE Action Plan, the commissioners will answer the eight (8) questions and be ready to discuss them at the August meeting. Commissioner Willis stated that we must have an Action Plan ready for City Council by October 2021. We plan to have a draft by the October meeting.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **GRANT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Commissioners are confident the newest member will have experience in finding and writing grants. Commissioner Mahoney suggested to ask for in-kind donations.

### **LOCAL RACIAL EQUITY CONCERNS**

- Gun violence
- Day care
- Poverty
- Drug abuse
- Sexual assault
- Fair wages
- Homelessness

### **REQUEST FOR A RECORDER**

A motion to purchase a recorder was made by Commissioner Bentley and seconded by Commissioner Mahoney. Vote – Yeas: Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy. Nays: none. Motion carried.

## **COMMISSIONER’S COMMENTS:**

Commissioners Hamilton, Willis, Quinn, Bentley, Mahoney, Hampton, and Dancy all offered comments.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

Chair Kesha Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 7:32 p.m.