

Minutes

Committee of the Whole



Meeting date: March 20, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Street

Members present:

- Chair, Charlie Zelle
- Judy Johnson, District 1
- Reva Chamblis, District 2
- Tyronne Carter, District 3
- Deb Barber, District 4
- John Pacheco Jr., District 5

- Robert Lilligren, District 6
- Yassin Osman, District 7
- Anjuli Cameron, District 8
- Diego Morales, District 9
- Peter Lindstrom, District 10
- Gail Cederberg, District 11

- Susan Vento, District 12
- Chai Lee, District 13
- Toni Carter, District 14
- Tenzin Dolkar, District 15
- Wendy Wulff, District 16
- = present, E = excused

Call to order

A quorum being present, Council Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

Approval of minutes

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Morales to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2024, regular meeting of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried.**

Information

1. Community Leaders Collaboration Expo and Presentations (Emma Dvorak, Gabriela Olvera, Darcie Vandegrift, Yumi Kashihara, Gillian Greenberg, Magaly Ruiz-Barrios)

The Community Leader Collaboration consists of 30 participants in three organizations. The organizations were selected through a competitive application process which prioritized uplifting voices of historically marginalized groups, youth, immigrants, and other individuals who are typically not involved in the public process and building their capacity to engage directly with the Metropolitan Council. Over the course of six workshops, participants completed over 100 interviews with their peers on topics including pedestrian and transit safety, housing affordability, land use needs for cultural and community connection, habitat conservation, park access, and inclusive communities.

Before the Council meeting at 3:00 an Expo was held in the lobby with poster presentations. Each organization presented recommendations directly to the Metropolitan Council. Participants connected directly with Council Members to share results from their work and respond to questions.

At 4:00 pm, presentations began in Council Chambers, starting with from Mi Casa, Community Resource Center, and COPAL. Gillian Greenberg concluded the meeting by sharing Next Steps

information.

Council Members commended the good work done by these organizations. Council Members appreciated highlighting issues with access to Transportation including micro-transit throughout the region and suggested reaching out to the MTVA board, the importance of K-12 education, the need for free spaces (3rd space) for young people, the need for public safety and increased safety in neighborhoods by decreasing/eliminating hate speech suggesting diversity is a neighborhoods' strength.

Council Members commented and shared personal stories regarding their families' immigration journey, including challenges in finding large homes for multi-generational families.

Chair Zelle thanked the participants and appreciated their meaningful impact.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council's Committee of the Whole meeting of March 20, 2024.

Approved this 3rd day of April 2024.

Council contact:

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