

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, September 15, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Equity Advisory Committee Meeting was held virtually, via Webex Events. Committee Co-chair Sitati-Munene called the meeting of the Council's Equity Advisory Committee to order at 6:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL (verbal)

Committee Members Present: Nelima Sitati Munene, Leah Goldstein Moses, Anita Urvina Davis, Nicholas Jenkins, Michael Luseni, Andres Boland, Chai Lee, Edward McDonald, Desralynn Cole

Committee Members Excused: Francisco Gonzalez

Committee Members Absent: Miah Ulysses, Sonya Lewis, Lanise Block, Richard Paul, Tie Oei, Phillip Sterner, Sarah Rudolf, Juliana Miller

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES (verbal)

Co-Chair Sitati-Munene motioned for approval of the agenda. The agenda was moved by Urvina Davis and seconded by Boland. Agenda was unanimously approved by verbal roll call.

Co-chair Sitati-Munene motioned for approval of the meeting minutes from August 18, 2020. Minutes were moved by Urvina Davis and seconded by Lee. Minutes were unanimously approved by verbal roll call.

THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S 2020 WORK

- Goldstein-Moses went over the history of the Equity Advisory Committee, its members and skills.
- Goldstein Moses proposed process change that the staff requests would go to the relevant subcommittee instead of the full committee. The subcommittee will work in dialogue with the department to identify issues, work on recommendations for eventual full EAC action, but would need to be addressed at the Standing Committee, which would set the agenda. At full meetings the EAC would spend more time discussing subcommittee outcomes that would then go to the full Met Council Standing Committees as formal EAC recommendations.
- The committee discussed the details and logistics of the Council and subcommittee structure presented.
- Motion called to approve subcommittee process by Co-chair Sitati Munene. McDonald moved, seconded by Lee. Motion was unanimously approved by verbal roll call.

METRO TRANSIT DISCUSSION

- Wes Kooistra, General Manager of Metro Transit presented on how Transit is handling the Pandemic response.
- Lesley Kandaras, Transit Chief of Staff presented Equity measures Metro Transit is taking.
- Charles Carlson, Director of BRT Projects, presented on Network Next and Bus Routing and Rapid Transit projects.
- Robin Kaufman, Director of Administration, presented about the Transit Engagement Plan related to various projects.
- Boland asked Kooistra about rebuilding ridership level after COVID. Provide services that meets regions needs, is a safe, equitable service. Lost revenue will be a big issue; needs a stable funding stream.

CITIZENS LEAGUE DISCUSSION ON REVIEW OF MTPD

- Amanda Koonjbeharry, Director of Public Policy of the Citizens League and Marika Pfefferkorn of Twin Cities Innovation Alliance, presented their plan on the review of the Metro Transit Police Department, focused on community engagement.
- Committee discussed the engagement process and review implementation with Ms. Koonjbeharry and Ms. Pfefferkorn.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Co-Chair Sitati-Munene read announcements before adjourning meeting:

- The Standing Committee will continue meeting virtually via Webex. Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Note, that participation in the Standing Committee is critical.

ADJOURNMENT

Co-chair Sitati-Munene called for meeting adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Erena Anderson
Recording Secretary

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 20, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Equity Advisory Committee Meeting was held virtually, via Webex Events. Committee Co-chair Sitati-Munene called the meeting of the Council's Equity Advisory Committee to order at 6:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL (verbal)

Committee Members Present: Nelima Sitati Munene, Leah Goldstein Moses, Anita Urvina Davis, Michael Luseni, Edward McDonald, Francisco Gonzalez, Tie Oei, Mohamed Sheikh

Committee Members Excused: Chai Lee

Committee Members Absent: Miah Ulysses, Sonya Lewis, Lanise Block, Richard Paul, Phillip Sterner, Sarah Rudolf, Juliana Miller, Phillip Sterner, Desralynn Cole, Andres Boland, Nicholas Jenkins

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES (verbal)

As there was not a quorum present during the roll call for the September Minutes and October Agenda, therefore approval was not called.

THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE'S 2020 WORK

- Leah Goldstein Moses updated the committee on the progress on the process of EAC subcommittee recommendation work.
 - Two ways that EAC information can get to the Council: Council members and other committees
- The updated process was put into play with the new Housing Subcommittee during the month of October.

NETWORK NEXT UPDATE

- Katie Roth and Robin Kaufman provided an update on Network Next and the Engagement Process on the 11 current projects.
- Urvina Davis spoke to in person engagement with places like grocery/ religious services outreach via iPad in different languages.
- Sitati-Munene asked how the plan is being implemented in an equitable way with the community.
- McDonald added that it would be more cost effective to find people who speak the languages versus translating. McDonald added publications and community groups that the team might look at.
- Goldstein-Moses spoke to the paying a stipend as a best practice and references or mini grants.
- Network Next Team is developing a tool for filtering BIPOC comments.
- Sheik added that the homeless population would be a good voice.
- Sitati-Munene spoke to additional resources for building impactful relationships with BIPOC communities.
- Co-chair Gonzalez engaging local elected officials in their communities of color and jurisdictions who use transit.
- McDonald recommended that the Network Next team meet with the Public Transportation subcommittee.

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES UPDATE

- Tara Beard provided an update to the committee in response to questions from the Affordable Housing subcommittee.
- There was a spirited discussion among Tara, OEO staff and the committee relating to the EAC requesting data from the Council and how that is handled.

- Co-chair Gonzalez requested the Council Affirmative Action Plan by the end of the week.
- Discussion continued surrounding Council versus Minnesota State statutes around the Livable Communities Act.
- Tara continued speaking about the Livable Communities Scoring Criteria and equitable outcomes, development and relationship building with the EAC.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Co-Chair Sitati-Munene read announcements before adjourning meeting:

- The Standing Committee will continue meeting virtually via Webex. Our next meeting is Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Note, that participation in the Standing Committee is critical.
- The Committee was urged to review the Parks Department memo
- The OEO Anti-Racism Lens Workgroup force needs two volunteers. Please contact Mitzi Kennedy if interested.

ADJOURNMENT

Co-chair Sitati-Munene called for meeting adjournment.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Erena Anderson
Recording Secretary