

Minutes of the

MEETING OF THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 17, 2016

Committee Members Present: Co-Chair; Edward Reynoso, Sindy Garcia Morales, Rebecca Stratton, Kadra Abdi, Tie Oei, Ruthie Johnson, Ishmael Israel, David Ketroser, Jennifer Munt, Deb Barber, Kimberly Carpenter

Committee Members Absent: Co-Chair; Acooa Ellis, Leon Rodrigues, Metric Giles, Steven Chavez, Shirley Cain, Vayong Moua, Leslie Redmond, Nelima Sitati Munene, Elham Ashkar, Claudia Cody

A quorum not being present, Co-Chair Edward Reynoso started the meeting at 6:07 pm, proceeding to the public invitation and subsequent business items.

COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Co-Chair Reynoso shared that the EAC would be able to present about their work plan to the Committee of the Whole of the Metropolitan Council on Wednesday, February 1st at 4 pm. In order to prepare for this presentation, Co-Chair Reynoso invited the leads of each work plan subgroup to update the rest of the committee on their progress.

Tie Oei, who is leading the subgroup on Criteria for Evaluation, Prioritization and Measurement of Content, shared that their subgroup had their first conference call to start brainstorming ideas. These ideas flow from the thought that the criteria for evaluating potential items for the committee is important because it represents the values of the committee. It is additionally important because, as a public body, the EAC would be able to explain the process of what they did, and the reasoning behind it. To help with evaluating content, the subgroup is utilizing SMART (an acronym for Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, and Time-based) goals. Tie mentioned that feedback from other members of the committee would be helpful for the subgroup.

Rebecca Stratton, who is leading the subgroup on Community Relationships and Transparency, talked about the important of building trust and communication. The group will start working together on other aspects of their group's scope of work. The documents they have created so far will be added to the shared Google Drive for all members of the committee.

Kadra Abdi, a member of the subgroup on EAC Impact on the Council, also mentioned that they were using SMART goals throughout their work. They will upload their information to the shared drive, as well.

David Ketroser, who is leading the subgroup on the Mission of the EAC, shared that their subgroup researched similar committees from around the country, including San Francisco and Portland, and found some of the work they had done on forming their mission. This research will be shared with the rest of the committee, as well. The members of this subgroup also felt it would be helpful to receive a more centralized timeline for the different areas of the Council's work.

WORK PLAN CONSULTANT DISCUSSION

Emilie Hitch, from Rabbit LLC facilitated time for each subgroup to continue their work. The goals of the meeting include looking at the following questions:

1. What are our work products?
2. How do our work products fit into the EAC work plan?
3. What specific things do we need to co-create or align with other subgroups?

Emilie mentioned that the work around the EAC's mission and principles would be key for crystallizing the work of the EAC. Additionally, the point of the work plan is not

to solve every problem, but to help create mechanisms that can solve those problems in time.

After time working in respective subgroups, the committee reconvened to talk about how the subgroups would work together. It was suggested that the leads of each subgroup have a conference call to discuss some of the potential overlap and process before the work plan presentation to the Committee of the Whole. There is also a meeting of subgroup leads scheduled for 5 pm on Monday, January 23rd, at the Metropolitan Council building at 390 Robert Street North in Saint Paul.

REPORTS

Announcements –

Equity Manager Cedrick Baker announced that the State of Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) was seeking additional people from the Council to attend the EQB's Environmental Congress Conference on Friday, February 3rd. This conference is intended for Minnesota's citizen leaders with interest in environmental issues, including environmental justice. More detailed information about the conference would be sent to committee members, who would have until Friday, January 20th to indicate their interest in attending.

Co-Chair Reynoso suggested that interested committee members consider attending the Women's March on Saturday, January 21st in Saint Paul.

ADJOURNMENT

Business completed, the meeting adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

Kevin Murphy
Recording Secretary