

## Minutes of the

### MEETING OF THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, October 15, 2019

**Committee Members Present:** Francisco Gonzalez, Nelima Sitati Munene, Leah Goldstein Moses, Anita Urvina Davis, Mohamed Sheikh, Sarah Rudolf, Tie Oei, Chai Lee, Juliana Miller, Lanise Block, Aarica Coleman, Kris Fredson, Sonya Lewis, Miah Ulysse, Metric Giles

**Committee Members Excused:** Tommy Sar, David Ketrosier, Shirley Cain

**Committee Members Absent:** Leslie Redmond, Abdirahman Muse

### CALL TO ORDER

Committee Co-Chair Gonzalez called the regular meeting of the Council's Equity Advisory Committee to order at 6:05 p.m.

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES

The agenda was moved by Coleman and seconded by Lee.

The meeting minutes from August 20, 2019, were moved by Coleman and seconded by Oei.

The meeting minutes from September 17, 2019, were moved by Fredson and seconded by Lee.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

Russ Adams, Executive Director of the Alliance Twin Cities, raised concerns with the Committee regarding Arden Hills' comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan does not include building any affordable housing for 50% and below poverty rate. Russ asked the EAC to encourage the Council to reject Arden Hill's comprehensive plan.

### EAC RETREAT PLANNING

Based on committee conversations and discussions the last few months, the items the Standing Committee have identified to discuss during the retreat are as follows:

1. How do we (EAC) exercise our power and responsibilities, as the Council's Equity Advisory Committee?
2. How does the EAC handle community concerns around METC responsibilities, as they occur in real time?
3. How can the EAC support the Council in its authority (whatever that is) to assist the region with equitable housing and should Affordable/Equitable Housing become a primary focus and priority of the EAC?
4. How can the EAC participate with the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) in the development of the Racial Equity component of the Framework currently being designed by OEO?
5. How does the EAC want to be in collaboration with OEO or how would it look if the EAC and OEO were working together as collaborative partners?
6. How can the EAC work with or partner with existing METC committees and boards to share equity expertise and support each other's work?
7. The 5 EAC questions attached (how do we incorporate these questions in our EAC work process)?

The full committee met to further frame, prioritize, and define the items in preparation for the Saturday, October 19 retreat. Committee members focused the conversation on several areas:

- What is our power?
- What strategies do we use?
- What are our priorities?
- How can we partner with OEO and further the racial equity framework?

These areas will be discussed further during the committee retreat.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Yolanda Burckhardt  
Recording Secretary