MEETING OF THE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 16, 2021

CALL TO ORDER
Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Equity Advisory Committee Meeting was held virtually, via Webex and livestreamed via the Metropolitan Council website. Committee Co-chair Sitati-Munene called the meeting of the Council’s Equity Advisory Committee to order at 6:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL (verbal)
Committee Members Present: Nelima Sitati Munene, Leah Goldstein Moses, Anita Urvina Davis, Michael Luseni, Edward McDonald, Tie Oei, Nicholas Jenkins, Sarah Rudolf, Juliana Miller, Francisco Gonzalez, Mohamed Sheikh,
Committee Members Excused: Chai Lee, Desralynn Cole
Committee Members Absent: Richard Paul, Phillip Sterner, Andres Boland, Lanise Block

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES (verbal)
- Co-Chair Gonzalez motioned for approval of Amendment to the January agenda. Amendment moved by McDonald, seconded by Oei. Agenda amendment was unanimously carried via verbal roll call.
- Co-chair Gonzalez motioned for approval of the meeting minutes from December 15, 2020. Minutes were moved by Sheikh and seconded by Urvina-Davis. Minutes were unanimously carried via verbal roll call.

PUBLIC INVITATION
- Co-chair Gonzalez called for any members of the public to come forward; however, there were no community members present.

2021 STRATEGIC AND WORKPLAN DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW
- Co-chair Gonzalez went over the status of the EAC 2021 workplan, recent edits and progress the committee had made so far.
- Committee discussed workplan terminology for clarity based on DOL versus Council definitions and initiatives.
  - McDonald spoke to DOL versus Council equity and workforce definitions.
  - Payne elaborated on how the Council defines certain workforce terms.
  - Sheikh suggested including definitions of certain terms to eliminate confusion. Co-chair Sitati-Munene agreed.
  - Jordan highlighted the new additions to the Workplan.
  - Goldstein-Moses suggested that she could research common equity terminology and bring it back to the committee.
  - Sheikh mentioned the need to differentiate groups when discussing business investments. A standard definition with an equity lens is very difficult to be inclusive.
  - McDonald responded that it’s important to use correct terminology so the Council stays compliant.
  - Co-chair Gonzalez responded that definitions should be on underserved populations, versus a specific list of all the different groups.
  - Committee further discussed the operations priority portion of the 2021 Workplan details.
Co-chair Gonzalez motioned for approval of 2021 EAC Workplan. Workplan was moved by McDonald and seconded by Lee. Workplan was unanimously carried via verbal roll call.

**THE EQUITY AVISORY COMMITTEE WORKFLOW REVIEW**
- Co-chair Gonzalez recapped the 2021 EAC Workflow diagram produced by Goldstein-Moses for information flow between the committee/ staff/ Council.
- Co-chair Sitati-Munene recommended cleaning up and finalizing the document.

**OEO LIAISON UPDATE**
- Cyrenthia Jordan, Director of Office of Equal Opportunity briefly updated the committee on the role of the OEO department and the various business units within the OEO.
- Standing committee agendas and workplans will be rolling out as they are finalized.
  - Multiple divisions and departments are in the process of finalizing their workplans.
- OEO is involved in the 2050 Planning process.
  - Payne added the 2050 project team is drafting their engagement process and are looking for input, starting with the Committee of the Whole.
  - Co-chair Sitati-Munene asked what the timeline is for the process.
  - Payne responded, still in the early stages and development. It’s just getting started.
  - Michelle Fure of the Communications Department added that the process just started, and it will be a long process.
  - Committee further discussed meaningful engagement opportunities for the 2050 plan, following outcomes from the 2040 Thrive plan.
- Citizen League is reviewing the Metro Transit Police Department. Urvina Davis is serving on that committee for the EAC.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Co-Chair Gonzalez and co-chair Sitati-Munene called for committee announcements before adjourning the meeting:
- Sheikh recapped efforts through Hennepin County relating to people experiencing homelessness in conjunction with Metro HRA.
- The Standing Committee will continue meeting virtually via Webex. The next meeting is Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Note, that participation in the Standing Committee is critical.

**ADJOURNMENT**
- Co-chair Gonzalez called for meeting adjournment.
- Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Erena Anderson
Recording Secretary