



Equity and Empowerment Commission Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2020

6:30 p.m.

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Minutes

Present: Vice Chair Alejandra Ibanez, Delores Holmes, Timothy Eberhart, Kymberly Walton, and Karla Thomas

Absent: Chair Jane Grover, Ald. Melissa Wynne, Kathy Lyons, and Max Weinberg

Staff Present: Kimberly Richardson, Interim Assistant City Manager; Shenicka Hohenkirk, ICMA Management Fellow

1. Called to order/Declaration of Quorum:

Vice Chair Ibanez called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. and declared a quorum.

2. Approval of the July 16, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Holmes moved to approve the July 16, 2020 meeting minutes; Commissioner Eberhart seconded. Minutes approved.

3. Public Comment

No public comments.

4. For Consideration

a. Environmental Justice Resolution

Commissioner Eberhart introduced the Environmental Justice Resolution. Jerri Garl from the Evanston Environment Board presented the changes made to the resolution by the Environmental Board at its last meeting. The changes addressed racial equity and justice in Evanston. Vice Chair Ibanez recommended that "Immigration Status" be added to the resolution.

Commissioner Eberhart moved to approve the resolution as amended, Delores Holmes seconded. The Environmental Justice Resolution passed unanimously.

5. For Discussion

a. Commission Retreat

Commissioners will respond to a Doodle survey to identify a date for the Commission's retreat before the end of the year.

b. Commission Bylaws

The Commission's Bylaws will be discussed during the retreat.

c. Update: Evanston Truths Subcommittee

Vice Chair Ibanez updated the Commission on the work of the Evanston Truths Subcommittee. The Subcommittee will continue to partner with the Evanston-Northshore YWCA and promote racial healing circles. The Subcommittee is also working on engaging community members to advance some initiatives to shape an equitable Evanston. Equity and Empowerment Commissioners Karla Thomas and Kymberly Walton joined the Evanston Truths Subcommittee.

6. Communications

a. Reparations Town Hall meeting August 27.

b. Commissioner Eberhart announced that this was his last meeting as a member of the Evanston Equity and Empowerment Commission.

7. Reports

a. City of Evanston racial equity initiatives

Interim Assistant City Manager Richardson updated the Commission on development of an equity plan for the City of Evanston and will provide a more detailed document and update at the Commission's September meeting.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.