



Equity and Empowerment Commission
Thursday, November 18, 2021 @ 6:30 PM
Virtual Meeting

**COMMITTEE MEMBER
PRESENT:**

Alejandra Ibañez, Chair, Karla Thomas, Vice-Chair, Devon Reid, Councilmember, Kymberly Walton, Commissioner, LaShandra Rayfield, Commissioner, Kady McFadden, Commissioner, Darlene Cannon, Commissioner, and Jane Grover, Commissioner

**COMMITTEE MEMBER
ABSENT:**

Omar Salem, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Kimberly Richardson, Deputy City Manager

1. **CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM**
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. **Approval of the October 21, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

Staff recommends approval of the minutes for the Equity and Empowerment Commission meeting of October 21, 2021.

For Action

Moved by Councilmember Devon Reid
Seconded by Jane Grover, Commissioner
Approved 8-0

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
No public comment

4. **CONSIDERATION**
 - A. **Approval of the 2022 Meeting Schedule for the Equity and Empowerment Commission**

Approval of the Equity and Empowerment Commission 2022 calendar year meeting schedule.

For Action

Amend the meeting date for April 25 to April 28.

Amended language moved by Jane Grover

Seconded by Commission Member LaShandra Rayfield

Approved 8-0

B. **Approval of 117-O-21 "Amending Title 2, Chapter 12 of the Evanston City Code "Equity and Empowerment Commission"**

Amending Title 2, Chapter 12, "Equity and Empowerment Commission" for City Council approval.

For Action

Commission members amended language based on the most recent set of suggestions provided by the legal review and additional comments made by commission members and staff. The amended ordinance language will go to Rules Committee and then the City Council for final action.

Moved by Jane Grover

Seconded by Alejandra Ibañez

Approved 8-0

5. **DISCUSSION**

A. **Discussion regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Evanston and Evanston/Skokie School District No. 65 Regarding the Five-Fifths Tax Increment Financing District**

Commissioner Cannon requested a discussion related to the recent intergovernmental agreement with the City of Evanston and Evanston/Skokie School District NO. 65 as it relates to the Five-Fifths Tax Increment Financing District. The Commission agreed that moving forward that they need to identify issues that are coming in front of city council before decisions are made that will have an impact on underserved communities. Ms. Richardson mentioned that it may be a good idea for the Commission to explore looking at the upcoming FY2023 budget as an opportunity incorporate equity in the budget process. If that is of interest to the Commission, they most start in April to ensure enough time.

C. **Equity Survey Distribution Plan**

Vice-Chair Thomas stated that she was waiting to hear from a NU professor to provide some feedback on the survey design as suggested by Ms. Richardson. Hopefully, the feedback is provided quickly for the survey to go out at the beginning of the new year, since it's the holiday and vacation season. Ms. Richardson stated that the survey will be translated into Spanish and that the City will commit to distributing and collecting the survey results.

D. **Zoning Code Audit. Received 1st initial report.**

Vice-chair Thomas informed the Commission that the Zoning Code Audit is in progress, and wanted to put this project on the radar of the new Commission members.

6. **COMMUNICATION**

No communication

7. **REPORTS**

No reports

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.