



Equity and Empowerment Commission
Thursday, January 20, 2022 @ 6:30 PM
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT:

Kymberly Walton, Commissioner, LaShandra Rayfield, Commissioner, Kady McFadden, Commissioner, Omar Salem, Commissioner, Alejandra Ibañez, Chair, Darlene Cannon, Commissioner, Jane Grover, Commissioner, and Karla Thomas, Commissioner

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT:

Devon Reid, Councilmember

STAFF PRESENT:

Matthew Ouren, City Management Fellow

1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

Called to order 6:34

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of November 18, 2021, Meeting Minutes

Staff recommends approval of the November 18, 2021, Equity and Empowerment meeting minutes.

Moved by Jane Grover

Seconded by Vice Chair Karla Thomas

Ayes: Jane Grover, Commission Member Kymberly Walton, Commission Member LaShandra Rayfield, Commission Member Kady McFadden, Commission Member Omar Salem, Alejandra Ibañez, and Commissioner Darlene Cannon

Carried 7-0 on a recorded vote

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

4. DISCUSSION

A. Nomination of the Chair and Vice-Chair

The commission is seeking nominations of a new chair and vice-chair. Alejandra will be stepping down from the committee. Karla Thomas is nominated as Chair of the Equity and Empowerment Commission. LaShandra Rayfield is also nominated as Vice-Chair of the Equity and Empowerment Commission. The vote for appointment will take place at the February 17, 2022, Commission meeting.

B. Evanston Community Equity Survey Update

Karla Thomas gave an update on the strategy for distributing the survey. The commission will plan to send the survey through normal channels such as a press release and aldermanic newsletters as well as be shared directly with organizations that can access populations who don't normally respond to surveys. There will be no set deadline for the survey, but once a threshold for representativeness is met across measured categories, the survey will be closed.

C. Development of an Equity Review Tool (Rubric)

Karla Thomas presented a draft of the scorecard. There is a primary general rubric and additional rubrics for policy issues that the Commission anticipates coming up often. The commission discusses who would use the rubric and when they would use it.

D. Environmental Equity Planning Investigation

Andy Schlickman reported the Environmental Justice Evanston status report and expressed interest in coordinating with the EEC. Andy will act as a liaison moving forward to ensure appropriate coordination. In February, the commission will have a more in-depth discussion with Environmental Justice Evanston.

5. COMMUNICATION

A. Passage of Ordinance 117-O-21 "Equity and Empowerment Commission"

Alejandra Ibanez shared that the enabling ordinance was passed by City Council.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned 8:18