



Equity and Empowerment Commission
Thursday, April 28, 2022 @ 6:30 PM
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT: LaShandra Rayfield, Vice Chair, Kady McFadden, Commissioner, Darlene Cannon, Commissioner, Jane Grover, Commissioner, and Karla Thomas, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBER ABSENT: Devon Reid, Councilmember, Kymberly Walton, Commissioner, Omar Salem, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Matt Ouren, CMO Fellow

1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM
The meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
A. Approval of March 31, Meeting Minutes

Staff recommends approving the meeting minutes.

Moved by Jane Grover
Seconded by Commission Member LaShandra Rayfield

Ayes: Commission Member LaShandra Rayfield, Jane Grover, Commission Member Kady McFadden, Commissioner Darlene Cannon, and Vice Chair Karla Thomas

Carried 5-0 on a recorded vote

3. PUBLIC COMMENT
Trisha Connolly shared their support for the lessening gentrification proposal. They have experienced people calling them trying to get them to sell their home.

Chris Kruger shared their support for having something like the Byron Sigcho Lopez ordinance in Evanston to preserve resident homeownership

Jersey Shabazz also spoke in favor of the ordinance preventing predatory purchasing.

4. DISCUSSION

A. Equity Community Survey Communication Plan

Chair Thomas gave an update to the commission on the survey. The Survey has had about 300 responses. Commission members shared their willingness to volunteer to help market the survey and discussed new ways to communicate the survey.

B. Gentrification Reduction Initiative

Chair Thomas and Commissioner Cannon began a discussion about preventing predatory purchasing by real estate developers as one way of trying to slow gentrification in Evanston. Some additional measures could be further disincentivizing demolition, or preventing people from converting multi-family homes into single-family homes.

C. Equity Scorecard Update

Chair Thomas updated the commission on the equity scorecard. The Commission will pilot using the scorecard on City programs during the next meeting.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm