

Special Reparations Committee
Thursday, July 13th, 2022
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, G300 9:00 AM

Minutes

Present: Councilmember Peter Braithwaite, Robin Rue Simmons, Carlis Sutton, Bonnie Lockhart, Claire McFarland Barber, and Councilmember Bobby Burns

Absent: Councilmember Devon Reid

Others Present: Tasheik Kerr, Assistant to City Manager

CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Chair Councilmember Braithwaite.

SELECTION OF REPARATIONS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Councilmember Braithwaite noted the July Reparations Meeting would be his last meeting; therefore, the Committee would need to select a new Chair. It was moved by Committee Member Barber and seconded by Committee Member Lockhart to Nominate Committee Member Simmons as the new chair of the Reparations Committee. The motion carried (5-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Vanessa Johnson-McCoy thanked Councilmember Braithwaite for his service.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Committee Member Barber and seconded by Committee Member Lockhart to approve the June 2, 2022 Reparations Committee Minutes. The motion carried (5-0).

5. COMMUNICATION

A. Update on Direct Descendants

Tasheik Kerr, Assistant to the City Manager, announced staff had completed their review of the Direct Descendants' applications. Of the 470 applications, 354 applicants have been verified. Staff will follow up with the remaining 116 applicants.

Councilmember Braithwaite noted some residents applied as Ancestors that were Direct Descendants. Some residents also applied as Direct Descendants that were Ancestors. Councilmember Braithwaite advised the Committee to direct staff to place those

individuals in their respective categories. It was moved by Committee Member Sutton and seconded by Committee Member Simmions to put the Ancestors that applied as Direct Descendants at the end of the Ancestor list. The motion carried (6-0).

Reparations Financial Donation Report

Ms.Kerr reported that the City received \$35,544.05 in donations to the Reparations Fund as of July. In previous reports, staff reported that 69,303.79 was received in donations. Ms.Kerr noted an administrative error was made, resulting in revenue from the Medical Cannabis Tax being put in the donations line. The amount received in donations now stands at \$35,544.05.

6. CONSIDERATION

Committee Member Simmons expressed her gratitude to Councilmember Braithwaite for his work on the Reparations Committee and his support for the Reparations process as a Councilmember.

Committee Member Bonnie Lockhart also expressed gratitude for Councilmember Braithwaite's service to the City and appalled his expertise, manner, and experience.

Committee Member Simmons and Council Member Burns recommended Reparations funds incrementally be released as funds become available. Committee Member Barber recalled discussions regarding recruiting a firm that is either black-owned or black-operated that could administer the Restorative Housing Program.

It was moved by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Committee Member Simmons to release reparations funding to the remaining recipients in order as funds become available. The motion carried (6-0).

Councilmember Braithwaite noted former Mayor Hagerty has been working to identify a bank that could frontload the City funding for the Restorative Housing Program at a zero-interest loan.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Committee Member Barber and seconded by Committee Member Simmons to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.