



Reparations Committee

Thursday, January 5, 2023 @ 9:00 AM

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center, G300 (Hybrid)

**COMMITTEE MEMBER
PRESENT:**

Councilmember Devon Reid, Councilmember Krissie Harris, Committee Member & Chair Robin Rue Simmons, Committee Member Bonnie Lockhart, and Committee Member Claire McFarland Barber.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER
ABSENT:**

Councilmember Bobby Burns & Committee Member Carlis Sutton

STAFF PRESENT:

Lolita Thomas, Administrative Lead and Nicholas E. Cummings, Corporation Counsel

1. CALL TO ORDER/DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

A quorum of members in person was not met.

A. Ancestral Acknowledgement

Committee Member Barber read the Ancestral Acknowledgement.

2. TESTIMONIALS

Chair Simmons noted that residents would be given three minutes to share experiences of discrimination, anti-blackness, and reasons for reparations.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of the December 1, 2022 Reparations Committee Meeting Minutes

Item moved to the February 2, 2023 Reparations Committee meeting.

4. DISCUSSION

A. Recap of City Council motion to transfer an additional \$3 million from the City's Real Estate Transfer Tax

Item moved to the February 2, 2023 Reparations Committee meeting.

C. Review of Reparations Committee Meetings Time Survey Results

Chair Simmons shared that the majority of responses were in favor of a 6 p.m. meeting though this time might conflict with some of the Councilmember's schedules. The Committee

reviewed the comments from the survey and provided responses. This will be discussed at the February 2, 2023 Reparations Committee meeting.

D. Providing Transparency regarding the amount in Reparations Fund

Corporation Counsel Nicholas Cummings shared that the City reported monthly through its Monthly Financial Report how much is in each of the City's funds, including the Reparations Fund.

5. CONSIDERATION

A. Review of Restorative Housing Job Descriptions

Item moved to the February 2, 2023 Reparations Committee meeting.

6. COMMUNICATION

A. Reminder: Reparations Youth Art Contest - January 9, 2023

B. Reparations Financial Donation Report

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

Vanessa Johnson-McCoy shared she was able to participate in a historical bus tour of Evanston with Dino Robinson as part of the symposium on reparations. Sol Anderson, President and CEO of Evanston Community Foundation (ECF), added that the ECF also incorporates the historical tour as part of its Leadership Evanston Program.

Ndona Nyomo Muboyayi announced the City would be holding two upcoming Participatory Budget meetings.

Tina Paden stated she would like the hybrid meetings to continue. She suggested having an evening meeting once a month. She also recommended the amount in the fund be posted on the City's reparations webpage. Ms. Paden noted she would like to hear from Corporation Counsel Cummings on cash payments and from Mayor Biss regarding his family's reparations process. She also suggested the Committee reiterate that the Evanston Reparations are to repair the harm done to Black Evanstonian.

Ms. Paden noted black residents are still being harassed by the City.

The interfaith community has been collecting funds in their respective congregations. On January 15, 2023, an announcement will be made at Faith Temple Church of Christ.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.