

## **RACIAL EQUITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

**DATE:** Tuesday November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**TIME:** 4:00 pm

**LOCATION:** City Hall, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor City Council Chambers 161 W. Michigan Avenue,  
Jackson, MI 49201

### **AGENDA ITEMS:**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call:** K. Hamilton, J. Barber, J. Willis, D. Quinn, L. Rodriguez, J. Inosencio, D. Hammontree, F. Dancy, Bikash Jha, Dodi Wheeler, Christopher Heydenburg
- III. Reading of Land & Labor Acknowledgement:** J. Barber
- IV. Adoption of the Agenda:** Motion by, David Hammontree Second by, John Willis, approved by all members.
- V. Citizen Comments (3-Minute Limit):** None, In attendance as a visitor, Michael Parkerf and subcommittee member Doty.
- VI. Approval of the Previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion by, Freddie Dancy Second by, John Willis, approved by all members.
- VII. Community Liaison Police Officer Report:** None
- VIII. Committee Reports:**
  - a. Board Development Committee** – Discussion regarding the Montgomery AL. trip in January. Flights and rooms have been secured. We're staying 2 nights . Kesha suggested that we send 2 members a day ahead of time to continue building the agenda activites for our trip. John stated that would be more practical to do

this, as City Council will be reviewing this. Jacob Inosencio made the Motion to send 2 REC members a day ahead of time to check out and plan additional activities for committees attending. Daveda Quinn seconded the motion. Motion was approved by all members.

- b. Grants Committee** – Zoom meeting Monday regarding grants per John.
- c. Policy and Procedure Committee** – Discussed bidding, make sure staff are following bidding process. Recordkeeping of who is bidding and receiving bids. Currently, all departments keep a record of their bids. It was recommended that all bids are centrally located. Also a form has been developed for all departments to use, indicating bids, and every department will have access to it.
- d. City Report Update -**
- e. Housing and Mobility Committee** – Through MLK Corridor you can apply for a \$50,000 grant for individuals who would like to build or start up their business. Availability for this grant is through September 2024. City of Jackson's website will have more information regarding this grant through Community Development. Thursday, 11/16, 100 home presentation will take place at Parkside. Daveda stated there are programs and banks, willing to assist with first time home owners.
- f. Public Communications Committee -**
- g. Education Committee -**
- h. Racial Equity Complaint Porcedure**
- i. Nominations**

## **IX. Old Business**

- 1. Audit Update – Falcia MacDowell. It was suggested that we vote now instead of waiting until December meeting. Motion made by Jacob Insencio, to approve a letter pending a zoom meeting, seconded by John Willis. Motion approved by all members. A zoom meeting will be held .

2. Action Item Follow Up – Dave will send an email to Leticia regarding wording in our Policy & Procedure, regarding members home address.
3. Strategic Planning – Promotional video will start working on it in January. At our last event concerns: Microphones went out and it was hard hearing those presenting. We had a great crowd and the presenter was awesome as well as the panel discussion. Possibly new location with more room, possible RSVP. Concerned mentioned that some companies still do not have a DEI plan in place, also lack of diversity on boards. Video will be emailed to Aaron and Commissioner's. New community outreach day was discussed. We will talk about this in our January meeting.
4. Equity Seal Work for 2024 – We will talk about in January.

**X. New Business**

1. REC Holiday Gathering ideas – Date December 11, 2023 @ 5:30 pm. Location to be determined.
2. Vacancy on Board – currently one.
  1. Positions of Commissioner appointees may become vacant if three (3) unexcused consecutive or five (5) unexcused absences in a year. The determination of unexcused absence shall be made by the respective committee. A recommendation for removal from office shall be forwarded to the City Council. We will discuss this next month.
  2. Subcommittee Engagement – New REC members will offer their desire for which committee they would like to be a part of. Kesha Hamilton made a motion to invest in materials for subcommittees members, Jacob Insencio second the motion. Motion approved by all members.

**XIII. Commissioner's Comments** – Jacob suggested that we look at a date change for meetings starting in January. Daveda shared that Residence In Action (resident lead organization by black & brown people, advocating for those in need of

housing. Will be on City Council's agenda 11/14 to be approved for housing at TA Wilson school. Also Palet houses will be available).

**XIV. Adjournment** – Motion by, Jacob Insencio, Second by, Davada Quinn. Motion approved by all members.

**Next Meeting Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023**