

**RACE EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 1, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Lynn Beck, Renni Bispham, Jing Fong, Olivia Hall, Savanna Rovelstad, Eric Stahl
Liaison present: Brenda Fontroy-Johnson Liaison absent: Clarence Moriwaki

MOTIONS

MOTION: I move to approve the April 6, 2023 minutes

Eric/Savanna: The motion was approved unanimously 5-0. Lynn Beck abstention.

MOTION: I move to approve the May 4, 2023 minutes

Savanna/Eric: The motion was approved unanimously 5-0. Lynn Beck abstention.

MOTION: I move to approve the June 1, 2023 agenda

Renni/Savanna: The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

MOTION: The Race Equity Advisory Committee moves to request council endorsement of REAC participation in the Bainbridge Island Juneteenth community celebration and up to \$300 for event expenses.

Olivia/Lynn: The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

MOTION: I move to empower Olivia to create a REAC information card to present at Juneteenth celebrations, the Farmer's Market, and across multiple platforms.

Olivia/Savanna. The motion was approved unanimously 6-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Rachael Reese expressed that she loves to be at the REAC meetings and learns a lot. She is grateful to the group.

Dave Henry, a founding member of the Olalla Group introduced himself.

EQUITY INCLUSION OFFICER UPDATE

Finalists for the equity inclusion officer position were interviewed last week. Ellen will follow-up with the finalists and possibly next week we'll have an officer selected.

CITY COUNCIL-REAC TRAINING UPDATE

- REAC assessed the top three equity training candidates and selected Scott Wynn. Scott is currently under contract with the City. An adjustment will be made to his contract.
- An outcome from the training is that from this shared language (and experience), we would be able to develop next steps.. We may also create a statement or name our shared values at the end—something concrete.
- Lynn, Renni, and Savanna will work on the draft scope of work and submit it to Blair.
- Ellen will share Scott's original scope of work with REAC. She and Roz will assist with scheduling the trainings. To meet Open Public Meeting requirements, there will be three separate groups.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION (Savanna)

- A community Juneteenth celebration is planned for 2-4 p.m. on Sunday, June 18 (Father's Day).
- BPA is a co-sponsor. There will be a focus on youth, plus 4 adult speakers and 6 youth speakers.
- Permits have been waived. Rental and equipment fees have been taken care of by BPA and community partners. Sponsorship is coming from: BCF (\$250), Hitchcock (\$250), UFCW 3000 (\$300) for a total of \$800.
- One of the reasons REAC was created was to do community events. It was part of our original work plan, and part of our budget was always designated for our events.
- Would like to see a line item in the next budget for Juneteenth and MLK holidays.
- REAC is not completely moving away from community events. We still want to be involved and partner with community groups who want to put on community events—we just don't want to be the one solely in charge.
- There is interest to make this an annual event, possibly hosted at the new BPA center.

JUNETEENTH (BREMERTON).

- REAC doesn't have the bandwidth to formally table at the Bremerton Juneteenth celebration.
- There was a separate request to the city manager for this event.
- It's been suggested that 1) REAC prepare a handout for another organization's table and/or 2) a REAC representative say a few words during the program (11 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
- Ellen and Shannon will work with Olivia to create the handout. Olivia will write copy. This information can be posted to REAC's website.

VACANT REAC POSITIONS

- Interviews are scheduled for next week. The appointments will be considered by Council on June 13. New members would be appointed for the beginning of July for the next 3-year cycle.
- There were five applications for five vacancies, including two members renewing terms.

WINSLOW SUBAREA PLAN UPDATE

The Steering Committee will have its first meeting on June 8 and will use an outside facilitator.

UPDATE ON CITY PROJECTS

*Compost procurement.

- The City is coming into compliance with state law that directs the city to use compost where it can for landscaping projects.
- Ellen worked with a staff person in the executive department to apply the race equity, assessment, toolkit on the development of the policy. It took about an hour for the staff person to get through the worksheet.
- Once Ellen has two or three examples she'll be better able to report back to REAC on staff's experiences using the worksheet. how it is for staff. Awesome, Ellen!
- COBI doesn't currently have a women and minority-owned business program. This is something that the equity and inclusion manager may draft.

*City zero emission hand tools.

- The city finally has procured zero-emission hand tools after some supply chain detours.
- Climate Change Advisory Committee is starting to work on assembling data on the city's experience and also doing some research on other cities that have community-wide ordinances. This is part of the climate action plan.
- Before the City drafts language for a community-wide mandate to use zero emission hand tools, have community weigh in first. How will landscapers be impacted by replacing gas-powered tools with electric or battery powered tools? Definitely have translators.

- We're trying to solve is air and noise pollution. If we replace gas-powered tools with battery-powered tools, we're dumping batteries. Are we solving one problem and creating another? I would love to solve that piece of the puzzle before we even poll the community.
- Where will batteries be recharged? Will the cost to recharge be on employers or employees?

*Safe Place program. Chief Clark and Jing had a conversation about this. We'll be ready to talk about it when we have additional information.

POLICE-COURT FACILITY UPDATE

- The new facility is slated to be completed in the fall. We are continuing to meet with the artists and develop a plan for public art.
- The name selected to move forward for final consideration is the Ted Spearman Justice Center. It will go before Council for approval on June 13. Islander Ted Spearman was the first African American to serve as a Kitsap County Superior Court judge. His widow was present, as was his daughter. They were touched by this appointment and with how they were treated with great respect by the Council.

SUBCOMMITTEE PROGRESS

- A. Outreach/Engagement: Juneteenth recap already discussed.
- B. Finance – Reminder we'll need W-9 for Juneteenth.
- C. GARE/Training. Lynn, Renni, and Savana will draft scope of work for join training.
- D. Law & Policy – nothing to report.
- E. Strategic Plan – nothing to report.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING REPORT (May 23 - Lynn

*A proclamation was approved making May 2023 Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Council approved to make this an annual proclamation.

*Mayor Fantroy-Johnson attended and represented Bainbridge at the Kitsap Economic Development Alliance 2023 BIPOC Business Forum in Bremerton.

*BI Reads is in its next phase. There are three titles to vote on. Selection will be made on July 25.

*Design of Eagle Harbor/Wyatt Nonmotorized Improvement Project will be presented to Council on June 13 for a final vote.

*Councilmembers Moriwaki, Hytopolous, and Quitsland were appointed to a subcommittee on advisory committees. This is the first time for this committee based on long-time discussions regarding consistency and efficiency. Using an equity lens on this committee's work will be important. REAC is offering its equity expertise on this advisory committee examination and an opportunity to collaborate.

*Imagine Bainbridge 2035. This nationwide program initiated by AARP may be connected with the Comp Plan and Winslow Subarea Plan. How do we make our community livable for an aging population?

REAC ITEMS

*Summer meeting schedule. REAC will meet on July 6 with new members present.

GOOD OF THE ORDER – no items.

ADJOURNED at 7:33 PM

 7/6/23
Co-Chair Date

Corrected approval of minutes:
8/3/2023