



## **Racial Equity Commission Meeting Agenda**

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

6:00 p.m. – Bim Street Facility – 108 Bim Street

### 6:00 p.m. **Call the Meeting to Order**

6:03 p – Chair Hawkins

Attendance – Liz Carter, Betty Curry, Namdi Brandon and Landon Hawkins, (commission members)

Anne-Marie Vanaman, Laura Janway and Anita Jones-McNair (staff)

Barbara Foushee and Randee Haven-O'Donnell (council liaison)

### **Visitor Introductions**

6:04 p - Selvy Barn-Harper and Healey Myers – UNC students

### **Approval of January Meeting Minutes**

6:10 p – Curry motioned to approve the minutes, Brandon seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

### 6:12 p.m. **Racial equity analysis follow-up**

Green Neighborhoods Grant Program - Laura Janway, Planning.

Janway provided a presentation. The grant amount awarded is \$2,500 and shared the reasoning behind the rubric scoring including review of other local municipalities. Hopefully the scoring process provides some neutrality and money is given out to those most affected. After first round of funding, staff will evaluate. Staff will launch program between mid-to late March. Commission members asked that information sessions are held for the community prior to the launch. Janway mentioned a focus on outreach during the 6/7-week application process and funds are awarded to upgrade publicly accessible areas. The commission expressed a

concern of exclusivity and emphasized that Oakwood and Eastwood Public Housing neighborhoods have individual/family needs. Families that are directly impacted tend to have health issues. For example, many families need cooling units – fans/air conditions. The commission wanted to make clear that race and equity concerns are not necessarily climate action focused, and multi-family driven.

The commission thanked staff for the work and asked that she try and do better job in terms of meeting needs of families, keep people informed and realize that this work is not a one size fit all approach. A suggestion was made to come back to the commission and discuss needs of the BIPOC community so that there is a better sense of what grants are needed to help with equitable outcomes.

### **Outside Agency Award Program (Human Services Nonprofit Funding Process)**

**– Anne-Marie Vanaman, Housing and Community Services**

Vanaman provided a presentation. In summary, work is done jointly with Chapel Hill to strategically sustain a results-based framework. This can help monitor how well non—profits are doing and a baseline on these organizations that seek funding. Every year staff evaluates the process. Challenges include collecting data from organizations and reporting. Organizations acquire their method of collecting data and when it's shared it is not “apples to apples”. Some organizations may be counting families/individuals singularly, collectively, etc., and not serving BIPOC neighborhoods. Also, ensuring the application process is clear. Currently not enough funding to address the needs in the community. Striving to tie decisions to current needs in the community. Keeping an eye out and available to answer questions. There so many non-profits out there seeking money and unfortunately the funds are not being tied directly back to the community. A large % offset things like administration. A concern was shared about Perry Place. Management is not transparent, responsive, and accountable.

### **Affordable Housing Special Revenue Fund (Funding Process) Anne-Marie**

Vanaman provided a presentation. Staff and commission began the evaluation

process using equity pocket questions. Again, not enough funding available to address needs. Work has been focused on a transparent structure, application process, eligibility and use of funding. Emphasis of the AHAC – Affordable Housing Advisory Board is centering equity and prioritizing projects.

### **Spring Community Event Discussion**

This discussion tabled to next month because of the lengthy earlier discussions.

7:45 p.m. **Comments and Agenda Items for next meeting**

8:00 p.m. Add to agenda community event/listening sessions and budget.

8:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

8:07 Curry motioned to adjourn the meeting, Carter seconded and the vote was unanimous.