



Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Thursday, February 18, 2021 5:30pm Zoom Meeting

Call to Order

Alexandria Ayala, Subcommittee Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. Tiffany David of the City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office took attendance of participants for the meeting record. Kayla Elson, of Justice & Sustainability Associates reviewed the meeting agenda.

January Meeting Minutes

The December meeting minutes were unanimously approved as distributed.

Review of Priorities and City Commission Meeting Report

Kayla Elson, of Justice & Sustainability Associates, reviewed the initial priorities. Tiffany David of the City of West Palm Beach Mayor's office provided an update on the City Commission meeting and mentioned that the Education Subcommittee report was well received. Tiffany David also informed the Subcommittee members that there would be another Action Summit on June 12th, 2021.

Education Data on West Palm Beach

Kayla Elson reviewed the provided data from the Quantum report and youth preparedness report through a slideshow. The slides included; census tract data, child opportunity index (racial disparities), graduation rates by race and ethnicity, WPB school's data, enrollment race breakdown of all schools, and population 25 years and over with a bachelor's degree or higher. Furthermore, the subcommittee members discussed the data needs on education and workforce development.

Discussion

Subcommittee members agreed that the data that struck them the most were the graduation rates from the West Palm Beach schools. Furthermore, Subcommittee members discussed the most pressing issues in the West Palm Beach education system, such as parental involvement, how to make Hispanic parents more involved in school activities, and trust creation. The subcommittee members agreed that the most critical issues are parental engagement and trust creation. Subcommittee members agreed on creating a panel and discussed the logistics behind it. Ideas for panel topics were discussed, and Sally Chester, Subcommittee Member, had two recommendations; first, gather data on children with disabilities who have average intelligence and how



Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

they are integrated into the system; second, reach out to workforce carrier force to get data to make more intelligent decisions. In addition, best practices that are feasible for the City of West Palm Beach were discussed, such as selecting the lowest-performing schools and asking the principals, teachers, and parents to come to the meetings and talk about their issues, through which the Subcommittee members can create a roadmap. The Subcommittee members also decided on targeting some schools and districts to unearthing the disparities in the school system. The JSA team and Tiffany David will identify some of those disparities so that the subcommittee can work on them.

Public Comment

Kayla Elson reviewed the Public Comment Process, and Subcommittee members were encouraged to invite the public to the meetings. Tiffany David spoke to the Task Forces social media presence (e.g., website, Listserv, social media platforms, etc.). Joyel Glaze, Subcommittee Member asked if their decisions go back to the Task Force. Tiffany David responded that the Subcommittee's determinations and recommendations go to the Task Force, and then the Task Force's decision on those recommendations goes to the Mayor.

Next Steps

Tiffany David and the JSA team will identify some of those disparities so that the subcommittee can work on them.

The Subcommittee members will work with the co-chairs on panel ideas and who to invite.

The Subcommittee members will dig into the priorities and create recommendations. The Subcommittee members will come up with content ideas for the June Action Summit.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 pm by Julie Fisher Cummings, and Sally Chester seconded it. The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 18, 2021, at 5:30 pm on Zoom.



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ATTENDANCE

Present:

Julie Fisher Cummings, Subcommittee Co-Chair
Alexandria Ayala, Subcommittee Co-Chair

Sally Chester, Subcommittee Member
Andre Darnell Wynn, Subcommittee Member
Joyel Glaze, Subcommittee Member
Sergio Piedra, Subcommittee Member
Dina Rubio, Subcommittee Member

Tiffany David, City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office
Kayla Elson, Justice & Sustainability Associates
Sazan Kerkukli, Justice & Sustainability Associates

Absent:

None