



Mayor's Task Force

for Racial & Ethnic Equality

FINANCE, BANKING & BUSINESS SUBCOMMITTEE CO-CHAIR MEETING MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 4, 2021

10:30am

Zoom Meeting

Call to Order & Attendance Quorum

Leontyne Brown, Subcommittee Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 10:32 am. Kayla Elson, of Justice & Sustainability Associates, reviewed the agenda.

July Co-Chair Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

July Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

The subcommittee meeting minutes from July 14, 2021 were also reviewed and approved.

Small Business Survey

Kayla Elson provided an update on the Small Business Survey. Since there have been more responses, Kayla will provide a full report of the results at the subcommittee meeting. The co-chairs also discussed gathering information from the wealth disparity studies conducted by Palm Beach County and West Palm Beach. Tiffany David and Leontyne Brown will follow up with Frank Hayden on these studies.

Subcommittee Recommended Ideas

With respect to the recommended policy ideas, Leontyne Brown provided an update on the current small business incubator programs that exist in West Palm Beach. Both the Urban League and the Black Chamber of Commerce are creating incubator programs, however they will be housed in one location. In contrast, the recommendation that the Finance, Banking, and Business Subcommittee would like to put forward would be a small business incubator run and staffed by the city and located in multiple neighborhoods.

As for the other recommended ideas, both co-chairs feel confident that the subcommittee is ready to finalize the ideas. Bill Jacobson, Subcommittee Co-Chair, shared that he would like to

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spend more time detailing the long-term ideas. Leontyne Brown also stated that she would like to learn and discuss the programs and policies that West Palm Beach already offers to ensure that the subcommittee's recommendations are not redundant. Bill Jacobson pointed out that the Downtown Development Authority currently offers mentorship and small business support in downtown West Palm Beach, so they can collaborate with the city to bring their services to other neighborhoods.

Subcommittee Meeting Agenda

Kayla Elson reviewed the draft meeting agenda for the subcommittee meeting on August 11, 2021. The co-chairs discussed and confirmed the meeting agenda for the subcommittee meeting. As the subcommittee begins to finalize the policy recommendations, Kayla reiterated the importance of ensuring that all the recommendations follow the requests of the executive order and are actionable items.

Adjourn

Leontyne Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:26 AM. The next meeting will be on September 1, 2021 at 10:30 AM on Zoom.

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Leontyne Brown, Subcommittee Co-Chair
William (Bill) Jacobson, Subcommittee Co-Chair

Kayla Elson, Justice & Sustainability Associates
Milena Almetica, Justice & Sustainability Associates

Absent:

Tiffany David, City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office