



Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, January 12, 2021 5:30pm Zoom Meeting

Call to Order & Attendance Quorum

Tiffany David, of the City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office, called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm. Tiffany David then took attendance of participants for the meeting record. Kayla Elson, of Justice and Sustainability Associates, introduced Emma Lipsky of Justice and Sustainability Associates who will be taking notes. Kayla Elson then reviewed the meeting agenda and pulled up the December meeting minutes.

December Meeting Minutes

No comments were made about the December meeting minutes, the minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

Subcommittee Data & Resources

Kayla Elson highlighted two key statistical points discussed during the previous meeting about persons without health insurance in WPB (19.2%) and the unemployment rate in WPB (10.2%) as according to the Bureau of Labor and Statistics. Other barriers to health access include housing and educational attainment, the digital divide, lack of access to education, geography and location. The subcommittee members commented on the current data available and discussed if there was other data that should be collected. Kayla Elson said she would research more in-depth about how data is desegregated in terms of homelessness per George's request.

Subcommittee Initial Priority Areas

On Monday January 25, 2021 at 5:00 pm, there will be a City Commission Update Meeting where task force co-chairs will provide updates on the work being done/achieved in the subcommittees. The co-chairs are to present the top two priorities that their subcommittee wants to initially focus on and further explore. The meeting is open to the public and subcommittee member attendance is optional.

Discussion: Confirming Priorities/Pillars

The subcommittee discussed which two priorities should be discussed at the City Commission Update Meeting on January 25. Topics included trust, accessibility (resources, healthy foods, healthcare), community gatekeepers (such as church and community leaders), education, and representation. These topics tied closely to the previous meeting's potential pillar options. The subcommittee members also discussed strategies to engage community members (i.e., surveys). In the end, the subcommittee members agreed on education and access as the two priorities to present, both of which



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closely ties into the pillars and other important topics mentioned above. The subcommittee also agreed to reconvene before the City Commission Update Meeting to review the priorities.

Next Steps

Kayla Elson and Emma Lipsky will draft the two priorities/pillars and send them to the co-chairs and subcommittee for review. The next subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 5:30pm on Zoom.

All the subcommittee members agreed to host another meeting prior to the City Commission Update Meeting to review the two priorities chosen, which will be hosted on January 19, 2021 at 6:00pm on Zoom. Kayla will send the calendar invite.

In addition, Tiffany David will put Jennifer Jean Bell, subcommittee member, in contact with the Director of Communications in regard to an educational program broadcast on the local station.

Adjourn

George Soria, subcommittee co-chair and Gopal Rajegowda, subcommittee co-chair made closing remarks, both are excited about the team's great potential. Gopal Rajegowda called the meeting to close at 6:53pm and George Soria seconded it.

ATTENDANCE

Present:

George Soria, Subcommittee Co-Chair
Gopal Rajegowda, Subcommittee Co-Chair

Jennifer Jean Bell, Subcommittee Member
Devin Pierce, Subcommittee Member
Mary Ligon, Subcommittee Member
Naomi Ruth Cobb, Subcommittee Member

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

Absent:

Jerry Deng, Subcommittee Member