



# Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

**Mayor's Task Force**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Friday, May 28, 2021**  
**10:00 a.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting**

## **Call to Order**

Patrick Franklin, co-chair of the Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. 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 agenda.

## **Remarks from the Mayor**

Mayor Keith James thanked Task Force members for examining the racial and ethnic inequities in the city and for working on educating the community about its racial/ethnic history to create a more equitable future. He then encouraged members to advertise the Action Summit. The one-year anniversary of George Floyd's murder has passed, which was what spurred the creation of the Task Force.

## **Approval of April 22<sup>nd</sup> Minutes**

The minutes of the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Task Force meeting were unanimously approved.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

Kayla Elson, of Justice & Sustainability Associates, opened the floor for subcommittee report share-outs. Co-chairs from each subcommittee presented their reports. Danita Nias provided a report for the Real Estate & Housing subcommittee progress and updates. Gopal Rajegowda provided a report for the Health subcommittee progress and updates. Bill Jacobson provided a report for the Finance, Banking & Business subcommittee progress and updates. Julie Fisher Cummings asked if the subcommittee checked out the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and Tiffany David mentioned the Pathways Program. Alexandria Marie Ayala provided a report for the Education & Workforce Development subcommittee progress and updates. Julie Fisher Cummings asked about managing/coordinating the priorities with the Sunshine Laws in mind. Donzell Robinson, of Justice & Sustainability Associates, stated that working sessions can be held to communicate strategies between subcommittees. Daniel Eisinger then provided a report for the Criminal Justice subcommittee progress and updates.



## **Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality**

### **June 12<sup>th</sup> Action Summit**

Kayla Elson shared the Action Summit engagement efforts thus far. Donzell Robinson then transitioned to the Action Summit agenda. Juan Pagan, Task Force member, asked if there were other language interpretations available, particularly Spanish and Creole, which there will be. Facilitator recruitment and training is also ongoing, particularly for other languages. Sally Chester, Task Force member, asked about sign language accommodation; there is a question on the registration form. Donzell Robinson then updated members on Satellite location operations plans.

### **Discussion**

Tiffany David clarified what is needed for a successful Summit, which is registration and facilitator sign-ups. Tiffany David also stated she requested permission to provide community service hours for students registering/participating in the Summit. Members asked about details for advertising the Summit. Farah Nerette, of the City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office, clarified what Sunshine Laws allow/prohibit members to do. Task Force members were encouraged to advertise the Action Summit.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m. by Michelle Diffenderfer, co-chair of the Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality. The next meeting will be on June 24 at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom.



# Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

## ATTENDANCE

### Present:

Michelle Diffenderfer, Task Force Co-Chair  
Patrick Franklin, Task Force Co-Chair

Alexandria Marie Ayala, Task Force Member  
Ana Bacas, Task Force Member  
Antoinne Wright, Task Force Member  
Bill Jacobson, Task Force Member  
Bryce Graham, Task Force Member  
Daniel Eisinger, Task Force Member  
Danita Nias, Task Force Member  
Dina Rubio, Task Force Member  
George Soria, Task Force Member  
Gopal Rajegowda, Task Force Member  
Juan Pagan, Task Force Member  
Julie Fisher Cummings, Task Force Member  
Leontyne Brown, Task Force Member  
Sally Chester, Task Force Member

Mayor Keith James, City of West Palm Beach  
Tiffany David, City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office  
Farah Nerette, City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office  
Donzell Robinson, Justice & Sustainability Associates  
Kayla Elson, Justice & Sustainability Associates  
Milena Almetica, Justice & Sustainability Associates  
Emma Lipsky, Justice & Sustainability Associates

### Absent:

Jennifer Jean Bell, Task Force Member  
Alexcia Cox, Task Force Member  
Jerry Deng, Task Force Member  
Alisha Winn, Task Force Member  
Faye Johnson, Task Force Member  
Maria Antuña, Task Force Member  
Rick Asnani, Task Force Member  
Chauncey Graham, Task Force Member  
Tameca West, Task Force Member