



Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

Mayor's Task Force
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, June 24, 2021
6:00 p.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 6:02 p.m. Tiffany David, of the City of West Palm Beach Mayor's Office, took attendance of participants for the meeting record. Patrick Franklin reviewed the agenda and approval of the meeting minutes.

Approval of May 28th Minutes

The minutes of the May 28th 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. Alexcia Cox provided a report on the Criminal Justice subcommittee progress and updates. Julie Fischer Cummings provided a report on the Education & workforce Development subcommittee progress and updates. She stated wanting to have a joint meeting between other subcommittees to discuss intersections of ideas among the groups.

Sally Chester, Task Force member, agreed and said that because of Sunshine Law restrictions, it is harder for subcommittees to discuss different ideas and priorities outside of the Task Force meeting. Michelle Diffenderfer, Task Force co-chair, suggested a noticed subcommittee co-chairs meeting for subcommittee groups to share and exchange ideas. Members agreed with this idea and were also directed towards the website page for each subcommittee's meeting minutes to get a better idea of other subcommittee ideas. Patrick Franklin said to give the co-chairs and Tiffany David some time to discuss a solution and then bring it back to the Task Force for review.

Leontyne Brown provided a report on the Finance, Banking, & Business subcommittee progress and updates. George Soria provided a report on the Health subcommittee progress and updates. Danita Nias provided a report on the Real Estate & Housing subcommittee progress and updates.

Across each subcommittee report, a common theme was updating each idea list and tweaking the language of the priorities based off the feedback from the June 12th Action Summit participants.



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June 12th Action Summit Outcomes

Kayla Elson shared the key takeaways and high-level overviews of the June 12th Action Summit. Donzell Robinson, of Justice & Sustainability Associates, shared Action Summit outcomes. He broke down the objective of the Summit, which was to create a sense of shared ownership around the creation of solutions and strategies to keep people involved with Task Force activities. He then broke down the registration data.

Discussion

Michelle Diffenderfer was pleased with the racial and age diversity of Action Summit participants, especially for four hours on a Saturday. Donzell Robinson asked the group about creating opportunities to get feedback around recommendations and for presenting recommendations as a next step. George Soria and Michelle Diffenderfer asked about next steps for keeping people engaged. Donzell Robinson said that this would be a conversation around what the Task Force wants to achieve. Michelle Diffenderfer asked if there are going to be any more Action Summits, Donzell Robinson said he does not think so based off the current scope of work for Justice & Sustainability Associates. Alexcia Cox, Task Force member, asked for clarification around expectations on subcommittee findings/reporting. Michelle Diffenderfer explained that the recommendations made by the subcommittees would go through the Task Force to adopt as a whole before they go to the Mayor. Donzell Robinson further clarified that the Task Force is arriving at the next stage of work which is fact finding, ideas brainstorming, and recommendations creation. He encouraged the idea of a working group meeting where the subcommittee co-chairs can share their ideas and recommendations with each other will aid in recommendations creation. By the end of August/September, the subcommittees will bring their recommendations to the Task Force as a whole.

Next Steps

The Task Force co-chairs will be further discussing the idea of an in-person meeting, as well as an "All Hands" subcommittee/Task Force meeting. The co-chairs will also review the idea of a subcommittee co-chairs meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m. by Patrick Franklin. The next meeting will be on Friday, July 23rd, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom.



Mayor's Task Force for Racial & Ethnic Equality

ATTENDANCE

Public:

Mandy Long

Present:

Michelle Diffenderfer, Task Force Co-Chair

Patrick Franklin, Task Force Co-Chair

Alexandria Marie Ayala, Task Force Member

Alexcia Cox, 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

Faye Johnson, 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

Maria Antuña, Task Force Member

Rick Asnani, Task Force Member

Sally Chester, Task Force Member

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

Corinna Moebius, Justice & Sustainability Associates

Milena Almetica, Justice & Sustainability Associates

Emma Lipsky, Justice & Sustainability Associates

Absent:

Alisha Winn, Task Force Member

Ana Bacas, Task Force Member

Antoinne Wright, Task Force Member

Chauncey Graham, Task Force Member

Jennifer Jean Bell, Task Force Member

Jerry Deng, Task Force Member

Tameca West, Task Force Member