

MINUTES

Constituency and Community Outreach Subcommittee – Empowerment of Marginalized Communities Mayor Donna Deegan Transition

Meeting 3

Date: July 25, 2023

Location: Jewish Family & Community Services, 8540 Baycenter Rd, Jacksonville, FL 32256

Welcome:

Co-Chairs: Whitney Meyer and Melanie Patz called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

In Attendance:

Parvez Ahmed, Chair; Gundy, Reginald; Midyette, Jimmy; McCoy, Rosemary; Velasques, Manny; Ticker, Susan

Via Teams: Alawee, Basma; Allen, Omega; Hilt, Madison; Leon, Anny; Reyes, Angela; Watson, Cindy; Shepard, Coleman

Review Recommendations:

Chair Ahmed indicated that for the next step, he would like for the subcommittee to take each recommendation and begin to develop them. He is looking for the following: 1) **Why** – identify why we are making the specific recommendation. Define the purpose or desired outcome. 2) **How** – start to articulate how each recommendation can be or should be accomplished. 3) **Budgetary Impact** – how much would implementation likely cost (ballpark figures are acceptable).

Example: Recommendation – Fully fund (JHRC) Jacksonville Human Rights Commission. 1) **Why** is the subcommittee making this recommendation? 2) **How** – clearly define what “fully funding JHRC” would look like. I.e., what should be the proper staffing (pick a number and justify it); talk about the work JHRC should/could be doing – be as specific as possible. If JHRC currently only reports on Gender, Race and Disability, why not expand reporting to include other protected classifications? 3) **Budgetary Impact** – in addition to estimating how much it would cost, add a possible *time line...* “to have the maximum impact/effectiveness new budget should be in place by the end of the next budget cycle... no later than the next fiscal year...”

While you are gathering your data to support your recommendations, consider if public records/information exists or can be gathered or requested

Example: Recommendation – Ensure all COJ facilities provide a unisex/family bathroom. Might there be a city department able to provide an inventory of public facilities and indicate whether there are family bathrooms?

NOTE: Florida’s Sunshine Law (Florida Statute 286.011) prohibits discussing any public business or matters connected with your board with another member of your board outside of a “noticed meeting.” This includes subcommittees; therefore, subcommittee members are to work independently and forward their report/findings to the co-chairs of this subcommittee for inclusion into the larger committee report.

Assignments:

The following subcommittee members have agreed to provide data on the initial recommendations:

Youth Government Engagement and Workforce Development

- Kiara Nixon: *Relaunch Red Caps for high school students
Rosemary McCoy: *Blue Caps / public service internship program with COJ

Boards and Commissions

- Rosemary McCoy: *Create a Board focused on Returning Citizens
Madison Hilt: *Create a Board focused on LGBT+ Citizens
Jimmy Midyette: *Review membership and ensure members are representative of Jacksonville's demographics and include people to be served by the Board or Commission
*Review meeting times to ensure accessibility for non-traditional Citizens to serve and attend
*Review Charters and impact and adjust as needed
*Review application and recruitment process to remove unintended biases
*Publicly promote the board and Commission process, to add more transparency, a timeline, etc.
*Fully fund JHRC (Jacksonville Human Rights Commission)

Physical Infrastructure

- Omega Allen: *Review COJ expenditures on infrastructure by zip code or census tract to ensure equity in investment
Cindy Watson: *Review time to respond to requests for repairs by zip code or census tract to ensure equity of response
Rev. Gundy: *Enforce quarterly inspections of public housing; informing them of their rights
Madison Hilt: *Ensure all COJ facilities provide a family bathroom

Business Development

- Omega Allen: *Ensure proper implementation of Section 3 regarding procurement
*Review JSEB (Jacksonville Small and Emerging Businesses) Disparity Study participants and recruit participants to ensure diversity
*Implement recommendations from the JSEB Disparity Study

Safety

- Madison Hilt: *Move oversight of Gang Violence Intervention to COJ in accordance with best practices
Rev. Gundy:

Community Engagement

- Andrea Reyes: *Research COJ qualifying as a Welcoming City
Basma Alawee:
Melanie Patz: *Implement a week of service volunteer activities throughout Jacksonville
Susan Ticker: *Organize a "Know Your Neighbor" Event
Rev. Gundy: *Encourage Voter Registration across the country i.e., libraries, high Schools, public housing; faith organizations
*Tenants Bill of Rights

Additional Recommendations:

Write up, using the outline presented at the start of the meeting, and send to the Co-Chairs. New recommendations will be reconciled at the next meeting.

- Basma Alawee has done research on establishing Refugee Boards and or Commissions
- Establish Office for New Americans
- Civic Education for youth – learn the legislative process
- Youth Councils – Cindy Watson will research and report back next meeting
- Mayor’s Youth Advisory Council
- Rev. Gundy - Northwest Jacksonville Authority
- Establish liaisons to respond to mayoral requests and for getting information out to the public
- Chair Ahmed will speak with Al Ferraro, Neighborhoods Department Director regarding data for response time for repairs by zip code or census tract or planning districts
- Chair Ahmed will also speak with Ferraro about CPACS (Citizen Planning Advisory Committees) as a possible model
- Tenants Bill of Rights for Public Housing Tenants (Rev. Gundy) to address housing issues. Rosemary McCoy will contact Florida Rising who is already doing work in this area for sample literature, etc.
- Promoting Citizenship – careful not to wade into State or Federal legislative territories

Next Steps:

- Review assigned areas, complete narratives on the “Why.”
- Develop “timeline” for implementation.
- Ballpark budgetary impacts.
- Research and provide data to support recommendations.
- Email reports to the Co-Chairs

Future Meetings:

(located at Jewish Family And Community Services Community Room, 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm)

- August 1
- August 8
- August 15 (Finalize draft recommendations)
- August 22
- August 29

Meeting Adjourned: 6 pm