

**Equity and Empowerment Commission Meeting  
Minutes of January 18, 2018  
Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center  
Aldermanic Library – 7:00 p.m.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Grover, Julie Corbier de Lara, Monte Dillard, Timothy Eberhart, Delores Holmes, Alejandra Ibanez, Kathy Lyons, Mario Vela

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ald. Melissa Wynne

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Steve Hagerty, Dr. Patricia Efiom, Janella Hardin

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**I. CALL TO ORDER: JANE GROVER, CHAIR**

A quorum being present, Chair Jane Grover called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

**II. COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Jane Grover asked each Commissioner to introduce themselves, how they identify racially and state their interest in equity and empowerment.

**III. MAYORAL ADDRESS**

Mayor Steve Hagerty spoke about appointing members to the boards, committees and commissions. He has been a supporter of organizations that address inequality. He hopes the commission will hold broad equity discussions including race, age, disability, etc. to help change practices in the community. He also stressed the focus on empowerment to hear the voices of those that aren't being heard.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Elliot Zashin, Organizer of Reclaim Evanston, spoke about his interest in the work of the commission.

Eileen Heineman, YWCA, spoke about her support of the commission and encouraging the empowerment of voices.

Jessie Feldman, League of Women Voters, came to observe and support the Equity and Empowerment Commission.

**V. COMMISSION MEETING SCHEDULE**

The group agreed that the Equity and Empowerment Commission meetings will be held monthly on the fourth Thursday from 6-7:30pm in the Aldermanic Library. The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, Feb 22, 2018 at 6pm.

**VI. COMMISSION TRAINING**

Dr. Patricia Efiom discussed the roles and responsibilities of the City Council form of government, the Open Meetings Act, rules of procedure and the primary role of Commission members.

The Equity & Empowerment Commission is an advisory Board that reports to the City Council. The Commission is not an adjudicating body.

**VII. INTRODUCTION OF BYLAWS**

The bylaws will be introduced at the next meeting.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Delores Holmes and seconded by Kathy Lyons. The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janella Hardin, PHR