



## **EQUITY AND EMPOWERMENT COMMISSION**

**Thursday, January 17, 2019, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.**  
**Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center**  
**2100 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Room G300**

**Present:** J. Grover, M. Wynne, M. Vela, J. Corbier de Lara, M. Dillard, T. Eberhart, A Ibanez (6:50 arrival)

**Absent:** K. Lyons, D. Holmes

**Staff:** P. Effiom, P. Martínez

1. Call to Order/Declaration of a quorum  
Comm. Grover called the meeting at 6:33 p.m.
2. Approval of meeting minutes of December 1, 2018  
Approved 6-0
3. Public comment  
Ms. Doreen Price person spoke about affordable housing and support for home rehabbing.

Ms. Tina Payton spoke about the need for affordable housing units.

Mr. Sutton spoke about the loss of population in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward and the overall loss of Black residents in Evanston.

4. **For Consideration**
  - a. Commission's 6-month Work Plan: Review and update

**Actions:**

Dr. Effiom recommends changing the strategy from assessing needs to gathering data and then assess the data.

Comm. Grover suggested to have the equity lens tool reviewed by staff and the Legal Department, and publish it with the assistance of a graphic designer, in order to make the equity lens tool user friendly.

Comm. Grover, Ald. Wynne, and Dr. Effiom will develop the equity lens tool. This item will come back to the Commission in February or March.

Strategy 5: Evaluation of Process/Measurements – Comm. Dillard and Comm. Lyons were assigned to be in this subcommittee.

Translation services policy

Dr. Effiom and Paulina Martínez will work with a staff working group to create a language access policy.

P. Effiom will provide an updated report of status of current efforts at the February meeting.

The Commission will review the Environmental Justice Ordinance in a future meeting.

Comm. Corbier de Lara suggested reviewing access of children to summer camps, and other creation activities and services.

b. Equity Framework, Strategy 1, Define key definitions

**Actions:**

Comm. Corbier de Lara moved to lead key terms with race and then alphabetize the disadvantaged groups listed in the opening paragraph. All other terms to be alphabetized.  
Comm. Vela second.

M. Wynne moved to adopt Key Definitions  
M. Vela second.

Approved 7-0

c. Equity & Empowerment Ordinance: Review and adopt

**Actions:**

Comm. Grover stated that rather than an ordinance, the commission should recommend a resolution, since an ordinance is a piece of legislation that would require extensive work with the City Council members, and be approved by City Council.

Ald. Wynne suggested targeting June or September to bring forth a resolution.

5. **For Discussion**

- a. Commissioner's terms of office

**Actions:**

Bylaws will be reviewed to implement staggered terms. Dr. Effiom will work with legal to present amendment at February meeting.

- b. Equity Framework, Strategy 2, community engagement policy  
Proposed community engagement policy calls for City Council to undergo equity training.

Plan also is cautious of not calling out specific efforts by other cities, but rather using field's best practices.

A revised draft to be presented at the the next Equity & Empowerment Commission meeting.

- c. Equity Framework, Strategy 3, define data needs
- d. Equity Framework, Strategy 4, develop equity lens; appoint committee  
To go to Human services in April

6. **Items for communication**

7. **Staff Reports**

- a. Report to Human Services Committee

8. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.