

Race Equity Advisory Council Meeting

March 17, 2022

Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Location: Zoom

Council members present: Amani Berry, Biiftuu Ibrahim Adam, Bocar Kane, Debjyoti Dwivedy, Deran Cadotte, Johnathon McClellan, Mahogany Ellis-Crutchfield, Miamon Queeglay, Tekia Jefferson, Susan McPherson, Yolanda Rogers, Dajah G., Raquel Jarabek

Council members not present: Christina Luna, Larry Hiscock, Mukul Nautiyal, Roberta Reindorf, Sheila Webb

County Staff: Alisa Salewski, May Xiong, Mercy Das, Pat Zagaros, Randy Larson, Shawn Sorrell, Steve Voller, Vinodh Kutty

Approve March Agenda

Motion: Bocar Second: Amani Ayes 7 Nays 0 Abstain 0

Approve February Meeting notes

Motion: Amani Second: Maimon Ayes 8 Nays 0 Abstain 0

Welcome new members

- Farewell to current staff; welcome new staff: Shawn Sorrell
- Shawn Sorrell is taking over the Hennepin County liaison role with a yet to be determined admin supporting Shawn.
- Acknowledge and bid farewell to members
 - Members who left us in the past two years
 - Alexis Murillo
 - Farhia Mohamed
 - Isaak Rooble
 - Latasha Jennings—the first Chair of this Council
 - Lissa Jones-Lofgren
 - Marisol Rosada
 - Paul Beshah
 - Member who will not return for a second term
 - Mukul Nautiyal
 - Members who will be continuing in April.
 - Amani Berry
 - Biiftuu Adam
 - Bocar Kane
 - Christina Luna
 - Debjyoti Dwivedy (DD)
 - Johnathon McClellan
 - Larry Hiscock
 - Mahogany Ellis-Crutchfield
 - Miamon Queeglay
 - Roberta Reindorf
 - Sheila Webb
 - Tekia Jefferson
 - There will be 4 new members joining the REAC in April
 - We start a new 2 year term on April 1st

Renters Rights Legislation - Deran and Larry introduce topic

- Housing Committee will provide a summary of renters rights legislation being considered at the Capitol. They would like to ask the Hennepin County board to support this legislation. Two representative in state house and one senator

sponsor have a few files in the mix that speak to address the not up to date on current renters right in Minnesota. Big ask a memo to county board th hamve them join the house and senate in supporting these initatilve.

- Address key areas –
 - Eviction expungement and pending enviction. No notice to tenants required before eviction and then that eviction will forever appear on a tenant’s record.
 - Heat and repairs regulated by local ordinances and this seeks to have a statewide framework, emergency repairs amended to include operating refrigerator, air conditioner, and when the building is deemed unsafe.
 - Lease fairness – rent advertised a certain amount, when lease is ready to be signed additional fees are added on to the rent amount quoted – fees should be allowable only for tangible services provided to the tenant and told upfront when rent quoted.
 - Access to tenant apartment must give reasonable notice, must give a definite time to enter.
 - Infermity – to exit lease with a two week notice in some cases of infermity.
- If we approve the REAC supporting this legislation and have county support also, will REAC members have input into the memo before it is submitted? Yes.

See notes and first draft in Basecamp for more the complete memo. **Motion: Johnathan Second: Biiftu Ayes 8**

Nays 1 Abstain 0

Purpose of Community Engagement Committee

When the Community Engagement Committee was formed, the purpose was

- Connect with other Hennepin County Community Advisory Boards (CAB) to learn what they are doing and explain what REAC does and find synergies and support each other
- As constituents, connect with commissioners
- Find ways to connect with the community to bring information about REAC and for them to inform the work of REAC.
- Anyone interested in Chair for the Community Engagement Committee? Miamon will kick it off and get it started.

Committees in small groups

Adjourn **Motion: Deran Second: Miamon Ayes 5 Nays 0 Abstain 0**