



Minutes
Committee on Equity, Diversity & Inclusion
Wednesday, September 14, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Jackson called the meeting to order at 4:36 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Jackson, Chair
Council Member Brown, Vice-Chair
Council Member Hussain, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Lisa Hagen- Lawrence, OCA – left at 5:01 p.m.
Joe Abood, OCA
Craig Puckett, Greater Lansing Realtors
Eric Gaines, Nation Outside
Ashia Wilson, Nation Outside
Robert Schearon, Nation Outside

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 27, 2022, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Puckett stated he was present at this meeting to see the presentation on the Fair Housing Ordinance.

PRESENTATION

Nations Outside

Ms. Boak informed the Committee that Nation Outside presented to the Ad Hoc On Housing as well, and the reference to ordinance was discussed at that Committee, however they chose not to proceed with an ordinance at this time but have proposed something in their budget priorities.

Representatives provided a handout presentation.

Mr. Gaines began by going through the presentation which spoke on fair chance housing and policy reform. He acknowledged that they have also spoken to the Ad Hoc on Housing and Resident Safety but felt this was a good Committee to speak to also. Mr. Gaines then continued with their presentation on homelessness rates. Ms. Wilson spoke on housing discrimination and its impact on families and what fair chance housing would do. Mr. Schearon spoke on his personal experience.

Council Member Brown spoke on the work done so far at the Ad Hoc on Housing and Resident Safety regarding the Fair Chance Housing Ordinance. Nation Outside is requesting. He added that Committee looked at the current City Human Rights Ordinance and what an ordinance impact would be if it could be enforced. Ms. Hagen confirmed OCA was looking at other municipalities Fair Chance Housing and possibly putting in the city current Human Rights Ordinance, but with looking at the timelines and what they were looking for it would be confusing. So, OCA proposed a separate ordinance and tie it back to the Human Rights Ordinance with penalty, enforcement, and the role. It was discussed at meetings, but that Ad Hoc is just discussing until they are ready to forward to City Council. Council Member Jackson acknowledged that the Ad Hoc has been working on this and asked Council Member Brown if there was the potential to move it forward to Council. Council Member Brown stated that there are several conversations to be discussed on enforcement, cost, staff, etc. that still need to be hashed out. Council Member Jackson noted the AD Hoc Proposed Budget Priorities they are working on to propose on 9/26/2022, then he would step back and have them continue. He noted that if it does not appear on the final budget priorities they can come back. He added that he is encouraged that it will come before all of Council for a vote on having on the budget priorities.

Mr. Gaines acknowledged that their approach today was to address with committee as the request as equity and inclusion.

DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION – Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget Priorities

Council Member Jackson noted that with this Committee there are so many things to consider. Council Member Hussain also added that the mayor is to address what was in the priorities, and if they cannot put in the budget, they are to provide feedback on why he did not put in the budget.

Council Member Jackson noted his interest in assistance for the sustainability manager. He was not able to provide a specific amount, but the Administration could establish this amount for the budget. Council Member Brown and Hussain questioned if it should be in this Committee or another Committee. As an example, he noted there is a Diversity Equity Officer, but there is no staff for that director, and if this Committee should look at items of more impact. Council Member Jackson acknowledged the statements, but the experts say the most impacted by sustainability are the low-income residents and live near the industrial site, and so the diversity would be for their housing.

The Committee went through the list on the current priorities.

1. Strike
2. Strike
3. It needs to be ongoing annual commitment, so remained in the document.
4. After discussion it was noted, the State has gotten a lot of funding for this with DHS, Council Member Jackson disagreed because there is still a need but would agree to strike at this time. Council Member Hussain there are other stages of government where there are pass through funds. The item was struck.
5. Strike

The Committee spoke on items to add, and Council Member Jackson again asked for adding "Assistance for the Sustainability Manager" stating his belief the need for it. Council Member Brown noted again that there is a DEI Department and only one staff, so he wants to address that in this Committee. Council Member Hussain agreed and suggested Council Member Jackson to get the sustainability topic to Ms. Boak by 9/20 for the full document at Committee of the Whole. Council Member Brown acknowledged the desire for sustainability but believes that this priority focus needs to be diversity, equity and inclusion. Council Member Brown proposed adding some type of funding towards the Diversity, Equity Inclusion impact in the city since the

role of that director is located in another department. The Committee discussed what the departments might need and if there have been conversations had with those directors.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE BUDGET PRIORITIES TO KEEP #3 IN THE DOCUMENT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

OTHER

No other topics of discussion.

Adjourn

Adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Submitted, Sherrie Boak

Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on September 28, 2022