**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

March 18, 2019

6pm-8pm

Seattle City Hall, Room 370

**Commissioners present:** Alison Turner, Ben Mitchell, Bereket Kiros, Carol Redfield, Chris Maykut, Felix Chang, Julie Pham, Karyn Kubo Fleming, Patricia Akiyama, Rani Hanstad **Commissioners not present:** Emily Kim, Leanne Do, Natalie Curtis, Sonj Basha**,** Thais Marbles  
**Staff present:** Danielle Friedman, Hilary Nichols

**Opening**

Agenda modified and approved. Minutes approved.

**Public Comment**

Kathleen Braden asked staff liaison to read a written comment. She encouraged the CIC to work on seeing if the changes Mayor Murray made in 2016 are resulting in more equitable distribution in Neighborhood Matching Fund grants.

**Staff Transitions**

Danielle Friedman is transitioning to a new role in DON, and will no longer be the staff liaison to the CIC. Hilary Nichols (People’s Academy for Community Engagement Coordinator) will step in as CIC staff liaison from now on.

Dominque Stephens is the new CIC liaison to the Mayor’s office.

**Response to Public Comment**

Chris M thinks that there should be an established procedure for responding to public comment, and suggests that there is a point person. Chris nominates himself to take care of public comment. What are the best practices around this within the city? Co-chair(s) will go back through the minutes and see if there is any pattern or consistency in the public comment. If there are public comments that are repetitive, maybe we can post them on the website (an FAQ).

Action items: Chris can lead this initiative. Staff liaison (Hilary Nichols) will look at best practices on public comment. Co-chairs can go back and look at past minutes and audit existing public comment, and will have a share out next month.

**Launch Party Debrief**

Great event! Food was great! Good sharing at the tables. Good turnout. Would have liked to see more people of color and more diversity at the event. Timing was not ideal; and it was during the Seattle Squeeze. Participants seemed really overwhelmed doing outreach. Many employees do not know about city resources and need support to so this work. Liked how people shared valuable information in their small groups.

Action items: Staff liaison will send Ben all the notes from the tables. Ben will write up notes. Ask DON to publish on the blog. Staff liaison will follow up with Councilmember Bagshaw’s office to see about setting up a meeting with councilmembers.

**Roadmapping**

Ideas of areas to focus on:

Go out in the community more. Go to a different library for a month to hold their meeting. Do outreach at library ahead of time.

Reach out to communities of color and go out to them to introduce the CIC. If we do that, we should leave time on the agenda to report back.

Reach out to other commissions and strengthen partnerships.

Goals:

At the end of 2018 we discussed what worked well and what to focus on in 2019.

Top 3 priorities that emerged:

* Reviewing the DON grant-making programs
* Help the City with the Census in 2020
* Connect people with existing engagement resources within the City

DON Director suggested: affordability and anti-displacement/gentrification issues as areas to work on together

Actions: Next meeting be sure to bring your initial workplans for the next 3 months for each work group.

Start at the end of the year, figure out your goal and work backwards from there.

Grantmaking- Alison, Bereket, Chris

2020 census- Rani, Patricia

Connect people- Julie, Ben, Carol

Report Backs

Census 2020- to advise on equitable community planning and outreach. Want to learn more about the task force. Then we will look for opportunities to collaborate.

Grantmaking- through the lens of race and social justice make recommendations to DON about equitable distribution of grants. Connect with others about what they have been working on. Goal to make a list of recommendations to deliver to DON and get a response.

Engagement resources workgroup. Connect city staff to existing resources. Commissioners to engage access resources. City light, SDOT, OPCD, and SPU are targets. See what the awareness level and continue best practices. Another focus could be community resources.

**Public Comment**

Marcus White- People need your help, people are struggling. I would like to join the group. I’m from Atlanta, just moved here in 2016. I came to the event you had in January. Thank you for having me.

Open seats in District 1 and District 5. Please recruit people who may be interested.

**Retreat**

Group wants to have a retreat. Would prefer half day. Sat May, 11th.

Ideas of things to cover at the retreat: Bring head of the department and staff to explain their programs. What has been done to engage communities of color. Metrics and progress to show.

Team-building

Languages and practice around racial equity

Reflection on last year

Balance being city facing and community facing

Action: Co-chairs will plan a retreat

Save the date: May 11th 9-1pm Retreat.