

**City of Hyattsville**  
**Race & Equity Task Force Committee Agenda**  
**Date: January 24, 2023**  
**Time: 7:00 pm-8:30 pm**

**PRESENT**

**Task Force Members:**

- Co-Chair Alicia Sanchez Gill Freemyn
- Co-Chair Jennifer Gafford
- Record Keeper Vice Secretary Jocelyn Medallo
- Member Rodrigo Blanco

**City of Hyattsville**

- Mayor Robert Croslin
- Council Member Rommel Sandino

**Staff:**

- Race & Equity Officer Shakira Louimarre

**Welcome & Call to Order - 7:05 pm – Co-Chair Gafford**

**7:05 pm – Roll Call – Co-Chair Gafford**

**7:07 pm – Approve Minutes from December Meeting – Co-Chair Freemyn**

- JG moves to approve; RB in favor

**7:07 pm - 7:10 pm – Election of 2023 RETF Committee Positions – Co-chair Gafford**

- With the welcoming of 2023, we discussed that we would re-elect the roles. None of have been in this role for a year, so we can continue our roles or change. The positions are 2 years maximum. All in favor of two co-chairs to continue in current roles. Approved the continuation of our roles.

**7:10 pm - 7: pm – Discussion of Timeline for RETF Plan and Council Presentation - Liaison**

**Louimarre**

- In December, we discussed 1-2 topics per meeting for the coming months, to not delay the process but to allow for proper time for discussion. Review of Council Motion Form.
- Equity Officer Presentation Slides: [1.24 RETF Slides.pptx](#)

- Timeline for RETF Equity Plan and Council Presentation
  - Confirmed section leaders and reviewer assignments and timeline. Discussion of resources needed for section presentations and guests from the city or community partners we may want to present to the group.
- Mayor Croslin: There are changes regarding housing in Hyattsville.
- Co-Chair AF: Are there any community members organizing around policing, particularly Black organizing work and immigrant-led organizing related to ICE detention?
- Mayor Croslin: We are a sanctuary city.
- Council Member Sandino: I can connect you with CASA, PG ChangeMakers, and perhaps Progressive Maryland. It would be a huge benefit to identify city counterparts who we can engage with on these issues.
- Liaison SL: For this term, the last day of session is Monday, May 15, 2023. The budget proposal discussion for this meeting is for 2024. RETF recommendations will likely be taken for the following year.
  - Open Meeting Act – Each section leader and reviewer can work in the document outside the meeting time and it can be compiled outside of the meeting time. As a responsibility to the public, there should be times it is presented to the full committee. We can reach out to partners who organized around making HVL a sanctuary city.
    - Community Engagement – Community Services
    - Aging and Disability – Marci Lefevre
    - Transportation – Taylor Robey

- Community Policing – Chief Towers, potentially Communications and Mental Health Leader, Adrienne Augustus
- Jobs – Jim Chandler and Jay Joyner, Human Resources
- Housing – Jim Chandler or City Planner
- CALENDAR
  - Community Policing (February)
  - Aging and People with Disabilities (March)
  - Transportation (April)
  - Community Engagement (May)
  - Housing, Jobs (June)
- Dates for Council: Monday, September 18<sup>th</sup>
- DC Office of Racial Equity recently released its [Racial Equity Action Plan](#)

**7:40 pm - 8:10 pm – Committee Legislative Budget Initiative Working Session–** Liaison Louimarre

- The budget process has begun and it is a good opportunity to request funds that may make a positive impact aligned with RETF. In order for budget request to be made, Council Member Sandino must endorse and submit the motion. Proposals are due by January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Co Chair Freemyn: What has been done in the past? Ideas that have been percolating or we can re-up on?
- Liaison SL: RETF has not made a budgetary request in the past. Other committees have: The Health & Recreation Committee has made a budget line for an equity speaker series around health and recreation issues.

- Council Member Sandino: Community-facing and city trainings to support city staff on these issues and there were also conversations on the arts/murals and the equitable representation of all of our communities, or other “activism” opportunities.
- Liaison SL will check with the Clerk’s Office to discuss how we can engage on this proposal while staying compliant with the Open Act. We can call an ad hoc meeting to discuss this budget. Ad hoc working session identified for January 30, 2023

**8:10 pm-8:15 pm Equity Officer Updates – Liaison Louimarre**

- Link to Equity Officer Presentation Slides: [1.24 RETF Slides.pptx](#)
- Upcoming events:
  - Black History Month- events to be decided. Tentatively there is an event on Feb. 16 and Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup> trip to Montpellier. More information to come next week.
  - Women’s History Month – Panel event- Date TBD
  - Virtual Sustainability Plan – 6-8pm tomorrow
  - Policy Making and Code Enforcement Webinar: January 31<sup>st</sup> at 2pm
  - Fraud Prevention and Financial Resilience Workshop
  - Lead Local: Registration for the 2023 General Election will open February 7th

**8:15 pm- 8:25 pm Open Discussion/Community Comments – Co-Chair Gafford**

- No community members present: Our new District 2 Council Member, Wanika Fisher, will be holding listening sessions. For HVL, the listening session will be held on Feb. 8 at 7pm. This is a good opportunity to help shape policies at the County level.

**8:30 pm – Adjourn Meeting – Co-Chair Gafford**

- JM moves; RB seconds

