

**City of Hyattsville
Race & Equity Task Force Committee
Ad Hoc Meeting Minutes
Date: January 30, 2023
Time: 7:00pm-8:30pm**

PRESENT

Task Force Members

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

COMMUNITY ATTENDEES

- None

7:08pm Welcome & Call to Order - Co-Chair Gafford

- JSM moves to begin meeting; DA seconds

7:08pm Roll Call - Co-Chair Gafford

7:09pm – 8:25pm Committee Legislative Budget Initiative Working Session - Liaison

Louimarre

- We started working on brainstorming on potential initiatives to submit for the 2024 budget. Staff is working on budgets and Council will review in February. Tomorrow, January 31, 2022 is the deadline for Council Member Sandino to submit. In compliance with the Open Meeting Act, the decision to submit must be made by the Committee during this meeting. Council Member Sandino is not here tonight.
- Objectives of this meeting:
 1. Decide whether RETF will ask Council Member Sandino to submit a motion for a budget proposal
 2. Draft a framework for the submission of the proposal
- Discussion/Brainstorming
 - Is there cultural programming already planned? Juneteenth, Hispanic Heritage Month, Pride Event? Do any city employees have network connections with neighboring cities (Mt. Ranier)?
 - Mt Rainier has an Immigrant Outreach program

- “Artivism” -- art installations and an educational component about artist and meaning behind the art. Do we have an update on this initiative? Has Hyattsville put on a Pride event?
 - Liaison SL: We have heard about an update to the Hyattsville sign on Baltimore.
 - DA: There was a 1k jog/walk for Pride on Route 1. I like what we have here around cultural programming and arts. Budget initiative 1 could be for the Chief of Equity Officer to have this budget available to bring in speakers across all these months, potentially sponsor art-tivism competition. We can frame it as an arts and cultural series sponsored by the RETF.
 - JM: I support an DA’s idea as a way to encompass the art and cultural activities. Whichever we decide, we should find budget to broaden the outreach to other communities in Hyattsville. The Draft Race and Equity Plan discusses access, translation needs as an example – starting from the basics.
 - DA: To what extent is City collecting data from the public on interactions with City staff and provision of services? If this data doesn’t exist, can we build it out through this initiative, or a small section, even if not the city writ large?
 - Liaison SL: I have not come across this data. The closet department that has this information is Community Services, as they have wide and deep interaction with the public. Maybe the longer term thing is in the next cycle.
 - JG: I have been thinking of how all the Committees operate independently of each other. We should be collaborating more in the way we intersect. Can we be more impactful if we are sharing ideas cross-Committee?
 - Liaison SL: In terms of cross-Committee collaboration, this could be a good suggestion for the Clerk’s office to share information or bring people together. In terms of this idea of evaluation, I recommend thinking about this for the next cycle in terms of implementation on the staff side. The number one question in terms of feasibility would be scope.
 - Liaison SL: To recap, the RETF can sponsor a Cultural series presented by RETF task force.
- Draft Titles and Strategic Goals for Initiatives
 - 1) What are the desired results?
 - One or two co-sponsored RETF events
 - Engaging areas of the city that are often underrepresented in City events.
 - 2) What would this result/condition of well-being look like if you experienced it in the community? What would it physically look like? What would it feel like?
 - 3) What are the community indicators that would measure the desired result?

DISCUSSION

- AF: Historically how much money is?
 - Liaison SL: Typically in the 3000-5000 USD range.
- JG: I focused on Community Engagement. Some of the things that stood out were making Summer Jams at a different featured park. There was a RETF online survey with 101 resident respondents. One of the comments was that there wasn't enough happening in West Hyattsville. In terms of access, location is another component, cultural events for Latinx community, multicultural events outside of the historic district. Clear details on transit options to get to city events. An electronic message board.
 - Liaison SL: Engaging wards and parts of West Hyattsville and areas outside of the Historic Arts District that are underutilized and with focus on the Latinx community. If a budget is received, it would have to cover a majority of the event.
- AF: Based on scale, we could have smaller scale community listening sessions, food catered, translation or led by people from the community. Paying an artist to develop a mural that represents the diversity of Hyattsville could be good. Culture is important to feeling seen.
- Liaison SL: DA had mentioned an arts contest. The City is getting a new Call-A-Bus and there may be an opportunity to put art on it. Hyattsville is an art city and it could give equity to artists. Once the motion is in, Council will likely ask you to dig deeper into the goals and activities.
- JG: There is a mid-range recommendation under Community Engagement from the equity plan, the City should explore a participatory budgeting process. Can RETF enhance or sponsor an existing activity, such as part of the Summer Jam, the Ward check in, getting to know our neighbors?
- DL: How to merge? A series of speakers, performers, storytellers do multiple pieces of Hyattsville, growing up in different identities, followed by neighborhood meet-and-greet.
- Liaison SL: Tonight the vote is on: 1) This is the idea we want to submit and 2) this is the title. Once you vote on this idea, I will start to draft the motion. I will share the write up with you in the morning and please get comments in by 3pm. I will send to Council Member Sandino for edits and review. That will be the version that will be submitted to the Clerk's Office. Next step would be a deeper dive by the RETF during one of the future Committee meetings.
 - Title: Arts and Cultural Programming
 - Description: Funding in the Fiscal Year 2024 budget for the Race and Equity Task Force to co-sponsor cultural equity centered enhancements of existing arts and cultural programming in the City of Hyattsville at the committee's discretion.

8:25pm - Committee Vote on Request for Council Liaison to Submit Motion for Budget Initiative - Co-Chair Freemyn

JG moves to approve; DA seconds

8:26pm – Open Discussion/ Community Comments – Co-Chair Gafford

No community members present.

8:27pm Adjourn Meeting – – Co-Chair Gafford

JSM moves to adjourn; DA seconds.