



Wednesday June 7, 2023

11:00 AM -1:00PM

Virtual Option: [Webex](#)

Attendees:

Board Members: Dr. Mark Jones, Willard Brown, Quanlin Hu, Sophia, Lindsay Goes Behind, Jamie Madden, Denise Perez Lally, Jennell Lee Hicks, Abdi Yussuf, John Rodriguez, Kaleb Germinaro

Absent: Diana Parades, Evelyn Allen

Public: Yordanos Teferi

Public Comment

None

Welcome & Relationship Building

Bana Abera, EDI AB Facilitator

Relationship building, and Confirm Attendance.

Approval of May Meeting Minutes

Bana Abera, EDI AB Facilitator

Minutes revised as necessary and approved by Board Members

- Willard Brown – "Board member" needs to be expanded/changed to show how many board members are talking at a given point, no other suggestions

Moved to approval by Dr. Mark Jones, seconded by Willard Brown

Call for additional comments/edits

- All in favor as is – all
- No – Nay or abstain – 0
- Abstain – 0

Retreat Follow ups

Rapid-Response Ad-Hoc Committee -

- Willard – Because of the nature of an ad-hoc committee is to respond asap, meeting notifications go out to everyone so that there is the highest chance of attendance
 - Staff- If it has enough members for quorum, it becomes a public meeting
- Sophia – is the committee permanent? Response to rapid issues always? One ad-hoc for all issues or one per issue?



- Willard – my understanding is the rapid response committee is always there and should be added as a standing committee so that it can be called on as needed
- Willard – there is language in the ordinance that mentions Ad-Hoc committees, it needs to be strengthened.
- Facilitator – Are we in agreement to move forward on this?
- Facilitator – who volunteers?
 - Sophia – hesitant because of the commitment and inherent need to be available at a fast pace.
 - Jennell – Similar hesitation. Not easy to move things around on such short notice.
 - Denise – Interested
 - Willard – Interested
 - Dr. Mark Jones – Interested

Community Outreach and Engagement

- Willard – Need to add a convening of EDI funded projects and organizations on an annual basis. This is already in the ordinance. Needs to be more strongly supported here.
 - As well, include budget. Indicates that it will be supported by OPCD.
- Facilitator – does this feel like a priority moving forward? If so, who would like to support moving forward?
 - Willard – Open Houses are the shared opportunity between EDI AB and funded projects, so that they can showcase their projects to the greater community and the City. Open Houses has more tangible and manageable set of opportunities.
 - Community leadership institute is more broad and needs more discussion. Do we partner with UW? Another community nonprofit?
 - Hold classes on letter-writing, seems like it can happen but don't know who can lead it.
 - Sophia – We can use Open Houses to combine priorities, such as showcasing projects and sharing experiences and adding value to others that are in the space.
 - John – Open Houses with grantees is a very powerful tool for us to engage meaningfully. Building meaningful engagement and bridges with our grantees and community.
 - Lindsay (comment in chat) – all of these ideas are great, I just want to be sure we're being realistic about capacity of the board and staff and understanding what are board activities vs. programming offered as part of the EDI staff work plan. CLI and Training workshops feel more like EDI program activities whereas Open Houses seems like a good fit for the Board to help coordinate/support.
- Facilitator – What are ways that the work can be distributed?
 - Willard – recommend that Youth and Community Engagement Committee should take this and bring it back to the Board. This is critical for our Committee.
 - John seconds, and would like to join the Committee
 - Denise – also supports the idea and interested in working on initial steps of coordinating and planning
 - Jennell – likes the concept of having open houses



Organizing Strategy: more education, communication and collaboration with community organizations, resourcing

- Facilitator – any more thoughts on this before we move on?
 - No responses
 - Willard – The ordinance only calls out two officers, if we want more that should be a discussion for next time.

Updating Ordinance & Work Session

- Facilitator – everyone take 15 minutes to review the updated ordinance document and then discuss
- Willard – the biggest change is the introduction of the word *dictate*. It is spread throughout the document. A lot of change can happen by using other words. Stating emphatically that the EDI board *shall* instead of *should* and other words. With regard to assigning authority, ex: EDI board *shall* authorize...
 - Willard – Look at some of the *whereas* language to define the authority, need to capture the strongest possible statement on what the ordinance allows EDI to do.
- Jennell (comment in chat) – My thoughts are around adding something about folks at all economic status when it comes to development, we continue to have a problem with homelessness and how is the board working to make sure our unhoused neighbors have places to transition off the streets into.
- Facilitator – There is already language updates from the conversation we had at the retreat. Let’s do a go around for folks to comment on their comments.
- Dr. Mark Jones – Do we need to be more specific in “to advise and provide recommendations to the City...”
 - Facilitator – This is already named in a separate portion of the document. What would be the purpose of including those in that section?
 - Dr. Mark Jones – we discussed in the retreat about clarifying what the possible reach-outs are that are available to us. Are there other departments (beside OPCD) that are given recommendations?
 - Facilitator – OPCD is the only department that EDI gives recommendations to.
- Administrative support – clarifying question on distinction between working board and staff support
 - Sophia – The board is doing more than advising due to staff capacity. Our work is not limited to funding decisions. Is there a way to have staff take on more capacity to cover the roles that the AB is now taking on.
 - Facilitator – May be a piece for another conversation, relating to budget.
 - Quanlin – Also consider adding and having more conversation on admin and technical support.

Terms



- We need direction from the board re: the terms and how to align it.
- We will make time at the next meeting to discuss in depth and flesh this out.

EDI Summer RFP

Staff: No update on the Summer RFP

Committee Report Back

No current updates

Announcements & Adjourn

Adjourn