



City of Milwaukee

200 E. Wells Street
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
53202

Meeting Minutes

DISPARITY STUDY INDEPENDENT REVIEW COMMITTEE

CHAIR: ALD. RUSSELL STAMPER, II

Wendy Baumann, Roy Evans, Michael Fabishak, Jeremiah Holiday, Bernadette Karanja, Ossie C. Kendrix, Jr., Brian Mitchell, Nikki Purvis, Nelson Soler, May Yer Thao, and Jean Marie Thiel

**Staff Assistant: Linda Elmer, 414-286-2231,
lelmer@milwaukee.gov**

Friday, July 26, 2019

9:00 AM

City Hall, Room 301-B

Meeting convened: 9:09 A.M.

Members present: Wendy Baumann, Bernadette Karanja, Nelson Soler, Roy Evans, Nikki Purvis, Jean Marie Thiel, Mike Fabishak and Ald. Russell Stamper

Members excused: Ossie Kendrix, Jeremiah Holiday, Brian Mitchell and May-Yer Thao

Ald. Stamper commended staff for their work on bringing this body to fruition.

1. Administration of the Oath to Members (Jim Owczarski, City Clerk)

The oath was administered to members.

2. Welcome (Pres. Ashanti Hamilton and Ald. Russell Stamper, II)

Pres. Hamilton was not able to attend this first meeting.

Ald. Stamper welcomed members and mentioned the need for inclusion and all perspectives and ideas so a comprehensive disparity study can be completed.

3. Introduction of Members (all)

Ms. Rhonda Kelsey said that the city wants to confirm that this body does represent all aspects of the city.

Members introduced themselves and spoke on their backgrounds.

4. Overview of the Role of this Committee (Pres. Hamilton and Ald. Stamper, II)

Kathy Block, Assistant City Attorney, said that the city currently has a small-enterprise program that is race- and gender-neutral; disadvantage needs to be documented by the applicant. The disparity study is to show if the city has participated in discrimination and discrimination does exist in a statistically significant manner. Ms. Purvis noted that the creating resolution outlines the specific role this body will play.

5. Guidelines on Open Meetings Law (Jim Owczarski)

Mr. Owczarski said that Ms. Elmer is the primary contact for this body for the city clerk's office.

6. Open Records Law (Peter Block, Assistant City Attorney)

Assistant City Attorney Peter Block went briefly through a PowerPoint (attached to file 190658). Members were briefed on open meetings law, quorum issues and open records law.

7. Overview of Estimated Request for Proposals (RF) Timeline and Purchasing Do's and Don'ts (Rhonda Kelsey, Purchasing Director)

Ms. Rhonda Kelsey said an RFP will be issued for firms to conduct a comprehensive disparity study and she provided a PowerPoint (contained in file 190658). City contracting will be examined for discrimination and, if found, will recommend programs to remedy the effects of discrimination and provided best practices to model. The goal is to release the RFP by the end of August with goals set through January 2020. The committee will be involved in reviewing both the RFP and proposals to the RFP. The department has been working on the draft RFP for close to a year now. A meeting to discuss the RFP would need to be in closed session. The entire body will review the RFP. Ms. Kelsey would prefer to hand out hard copies rather than have it circulate via e-mail. Ms. Kelsey estimated the city might receive 5-10 responses, but there is a lot of interest in this so there may be more.

Ms. Karanja moved to review the document in closed session and then return the document. Seconded by Mr. Fabishak. There were no objections.

8. Compilation of Items for Future Agendas and Set Next Meeting Date and Time (all)

The next meeting will be in closed session to review the draft RFP.

August 30th at 9 a.m.

*Meeting adjourned: 10:27 A.M.
Linda M. Elmer
Staff Assistant*