

Observer: Carol Mullins

Aldermen Present: Fiske, chair; Braithewaite, Revelle, Fleming, and Rue Simmons.

Staff Present: Pat Efiom, Att. Mason, City Manager Bobkiewicz

Media Present: EvanstonNow, Roundtable, Daily Northwestern?.

Meeting Began: 5:02 pm

Meeting Ended: 6:10 pm

No. Of Citizens in Attendance: About 25? inside and 10? outside.

Call to order and approval of minutes unanimous

Items for Consideration:

HH1 Stone Porch by the Lake License Renewal, 300 Church Street

Approval of license, unanimous

Citizen comment before discussion of the Equity Report:

Sara Vanderwicken: Unitarian Church, no criteria, plan is simply to have meetings, unclear intent and mandate loose

St. Vincent de Paul- St. Mary's Church rep: too loose no affordable housing, City now refers clients to St. Mary's

Michelle Hays: Back on your Feet, we should start with data City already has about who is using city services

YWCA Rep: happy about having something on paper, much work has gone on, include the current groups working on this already

Marie Wilson: NAACP, interested in plan

Karen Courtright: Unitarian Church, don't accept report as written, much community engagement already

Betty Sue Ester: report not clear cut, can't reach people

Patricia Charles?: need another way to reach people, Town halls don't do it.

Steve Hagerty: Mayor, accepting applications for Citizen complaint Committee, 13 have applied

Reina Campbell: Town Hall meetings talk to the choir

HH2 Equity and Empowerment Report on the Community's input and Equity issues within Evanston

For Action

Not approved as presented, but much discussion. Patricia Efiom made a very good presentation, agreeing with most of the citizen comments, suggesting she needs team, she is not the Equity Officer, but is getting numerous calls to do so. When she started, the issues of inequity were the Library, the Police Department, and the beach. She talked about helping an disabled person get to and use the beach. (Lesley Williams, formerly of the Library, was in attendance. The

goals are: city council action, equity training, community & staff engagement, equality in the workplace, equity in policies, processes and procedures, trained teams necessary, 311 workers training. She thinks Districts 65, 202, YWCA are working diligently. Repeatedly she said we need participants at the table, not their representatives. The people who answer surveys and come to Town Hall meetings are the white women. She envisions a 3 year strategic plan. Many people who need services don't know how to access them. Rue-Simmons suggested using black churches to reach people.

Fleming asked about the consulting company, all white with sustainability as its mission, why them? she said she had many more questions, but in order to maintain time limit for meeting, she would ask later. Iowa City and San Antonio have commenced similar projects and are helpful as was a national conference that she attended. Finally, Wally came up to the dais with Efiom when the committee didn't approve the report as presented. There was a lot of conversation about ongoing discussion each month, but Wally suggested they wouldn't have sufficient data for at least 60 days. Race is number one on their agenda, there was a comment that City Council didn't want to discuss Harley Clark, maybe time to discuss renovations for Fleetwood Jourdain.

Meeting was adjourned as one highly excited lady came running to the dais to ask a question. Chair said meeting over and she asked if Bobkiewicz were still being sued for racial discrimination. Chair suggested an inappropriate place for such a question and said that she didn't have an answer.