

Observer: Jessica Feldman

Meeting began: 6:12 pm (when Ch. Alderman Fiske arrived)

Meeting Ended: 7:20 pm

Aldermen Present/Absent: Aldermen Braithwaite, Fiske, Rue Simmons, Revelle, and Fleming

Staff Present: Kim Richardson, staff assigned to committee meeting; Enith Sanchez, government fellow, Patricia Efrim, Attorney Ford, City Clerk's staff Ms. Whyte.

Media Present: RoundTable; EvanstonNow;

Discussion, Action:

CALL TO ORDER / DECLARATION OF QUORUM

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF July 10, 2017

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION none

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

(HH1) Police Issues Work Plan Update -- Dep. Chief reported Sheriff's training done; 1st segment of Dr. Logan's training ended and next step -dates set for Town Hall Meetings; body cameras for all will be completed by end of 2017.

Citizens Comment: 5 speakers: 2 raised concern about implicit bias was exhibited when three 12 year-old boys riding one bike were stopped by police and the two extra riders were arrested and taken into custody in a "paddy wagon"; need better Police training to recognize and address implicit bias. (Ald. Braithwaite explained the issue was under investigation, waiting for return from vacation by Chief Eddington for completion. Alderman Fleming said she would follow up and report on result of investigation within the rules for minors.) Two persons spoke about need for Police Review Bd. oversight by a group such as Citizens Network for (of?) Protection that would be separate from the City. The fifth speaker spoke of 1) still waiting for Westside Library, discounting proposed Crown Branch as such; 2 Drugs "rich get help; poor die; Sanctuary City: disagrees with Mayor Emanuel's lawsuit -not fair to people here; take care of people here; everyone should need a passport like other countries require for entry.

(HH2) Equity and Empowerment Update

Citizen Comment: 4 speakers: Two mentioned police complaints working but needs work; expressed hope for worthwhile results and not "hypocrisy". Two young Latino women (one born and raised in Evanston) spoke about the lack of available Spanish language written surveys, in general, and also at Town Hall for Latino residents where there was limited attendance (24). The first speaker emphasized

that the needs of the Latino community have been the same for 30 years –employment and housing and did not need more surveys to determine this.

Cover Memorandum included Recommended Action:

1. Review updated Proposed 2017-2018 Equity & Empowerment Work Plan.

Enith Sanchez narrated a Powerpoint presentation about survey results from 2014 and the most recent, mainly online, one that was discussed at the previous meeting. There was energetic conversation, mainly among Aldermen Fleming and Rue Simmons, about the new version of the plan which, though they felt it was improved still had too much gathering and little action; Alderman Rue Simmons said need to be more strategic. Dr. Efrim said need to get faith community involved to get to broader population. Alderman Fleming objected saying, “people come out when offering something.”*

2. Direct staff to begin August - October, 2017 tasks in work plan, to continue receiving community feedback on plan and to return to October Human Services Committee meeting for final review of work plan and recommendation to City Council for approval.

Fleming suggested adding questions that look at barriers and challenges to accessing City services. Aldermen Fleming and Rue Simmons objected spending a lot of time on surveys or Town Halls; need to move into action mode. Alderman Revelle suggested could do more surveys later if there is a need to fill in information. Dr. Efrim stated continuing to find ways need to find ways to reach populations not reaching.

3. Recommend to the Rules Committee the creation of the Equity & Empowerment Commission; Alderman Revelle moved that the Committee recommend to Rules Committee creating an Equity & Empowerment Commission that would be a substitute for the Human Relations portion of the Housing, Homeless and Human Relations Commission. Alderman Revelle reported the Housing and Homeless portion of the committee, as currently structured, consumes all the energy of the committee so moving Human Relations into the new Equity and Empowerment Commission is a better fit. With minimal discussion the motion was approved 4-1 with Alderman Fleming voting no.

4. Review the “All People Are Welcome” sign and direct the City Manager to implement. Dr. Efrim stated there needs to be more discussion/agreement on what it means to be a Welcoming City, displayed a mock up of a “Welcoming City” sign proposed to be displayed outside all City buildings. Alderman Fleming questioned what did the sign mean/say. Some question about what does it mean to be a Welcoming City; sign needs Spanish on sign. Brief exchange on how many languages are taught or spoken in Evanston. Committee agreed to placing the Welcoming City signs on the City building. Alderman Fiske suggested copies on stickers posters should be available for residents to post, too

V. ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

(HH3) Evanston Police Quarterly report on Cannabis, 2nd quarter – No Report
Committee agreed next meeting would be Wed, Sept. 6