

## Equity & Empowerment Observer Report

**Date:** January 18, 2019

**Observer:** Jessica Feldman

**Meeting began:** 6:30pm

**Meeting Ended:** 8:15pm

**Committee Members:** Jane Grover Ch.

Mario Vela, Mario, Kathy Lyons, Alejandra Ibanez, Timothy Eberhart, Rev. Monte Dillard, Julie Corbier de Lara, Ald. Melissa Wynne. Delores Holmes absent.

**Staff Present:** Pat Efiom

**Media Present:** Unidentified NU students

**Citizen Comment:** Paden sister; Carlis Sutton and Doreen Price spoke to the Equity issue involved in retaining existing affordable housing particularly in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward; raised Equity concern about demolition of two affordable houses to be replaced by one larger home (no location referenced) reducing affordable units available. Suggested don't permit demolition of affordable unit without approving any replacement construction that is not an affordable structure.

### For Consideration/Discussion:

#### 1. **For Consideration –**

- a. Commission's 6-month Work Plan: Review and update –
- b. Equity & Empowerment Ordinance: Review and adopt

Draft documents still in committees. Final submissions expected for next meeting.

#### 2. **For Discussion**

- a. Commissioner's terms of office: Currently all terms end 2020; Proposal for staggering terms will be presented at next meeting.
- b. Equity Framework, Strategy 1, Define key definitions and concepts: still in draft form. Clarification agreed for formatting so final version can be presented at the next meeting.
- c. Translation Policy: Are collaborating with Northwestern and North Shore University Health Systems. Currently not a problem, but want to be proactive on this topic so Commission will put off for the time being.  
Also, on Environmental Justice: what was scope of the original goal? Need to think ahead; coordinate with other groups focusing on this.
- d. Equity Framework, Strategy 2, community engagement policy – Still in committee drafting.
- e. Equity Framework, Strategy 3, define data needs
- f. Equity Framework, Strategy 4, develop equity lens; committee to have a good draft for the next meeting. In the meantime staff will use existing language for sessions with directors which will be next month and with staff the following month.

Ch. Grover suggested: Evaluation tool: format change to document with goals connected to action.

Ald. Wynne suggested considering using the Santa Monica model.

Outstanding issue identified: How to coordinate all departments work.