

Observer Report**Reparations****December 18, 2020****Present:** Rue-Simmons, Rainey, Braithewaite**Meeting Began:** 9:15am**Meeting ended:** 10:15am**Staff:** Kimberley and Tasheek

Braithewaite thanked those who are donating to Reparations. Rainey said only 14,000 of marijuana-taxed funds available now. She said there is only one dispensary in Evanston, which is being renovated. We need more to increase Reparations money.

There will be recurring updates on Reparations website. City Council had good discussion, no voting.

Kimberley said this is a huge administrative undertaking and staff are unable to handle registration of applicants. Rue-Simmons said a position would be created to handle this. There has to be Review Committee to have criteria, proof of residency and determine what documents are necessary to qualify as Reparations eligible.

Nick Cummings said banks may be prohibited from race based decisions, but Rue Simmons said that is part of the committee work. Institutions are becoming bold. There is so much support available. There is no commitment from banks, but making progress.

Mr. Howard talked about Reparations at the state and federal level, HR40, has 172 cosponsors, including our senators and our Congresswoman.

Rue-Simmons said that Reparation rules are spelled out For Evanston: housing and economic development. Peter Braithewaite added that trust is a big factor, don't ignore city efforts as there are many organizations are working. Dino Robinson has designed a city logo to identify Evanston Reparations Committee.

Public comments: Sutton– is there still redlining in response to banks being prohibited from race based decisions. Ndonga– believes in cash payments, don't believe there should be Oversight committee; another cash payments; Melody to include health priorities, Bennett Johnson– work on reconciliation

Rue-Simmons–thanks to public comments, all have been heard.

Next meeting: Jan 14,2021