

**Observer Report****Reparations****January 6, 2022****Observer:** Carol Mullins, LWVE**Meeting began:** 9:17 am

The meeting opened by Peter Braithwaite. Minutes approved. Quorum was achieved and Kimberley Richardson discussed the planning for both household renovation and home ownership for 16 families for this calendar year. After six months of planning, the City chose CIBA to assist people if they chose to do so. Lots and lots of discussion ensued with representative from CIBA discussing process. Robin Rue Simmons and Carlos Sutton asked about exclusivity of CIBA. City can do inspection for safety and quality of work, don't need CIBA. This should be owned by black community and their contractors, keeping money in the black community. This resulted in a very frustrating situation for Kimberley, saying City had worked on this for six months, not six weeks. She suggested it would have been good to know committee's direction before she and her department embarked on this process. City felt CIBA able to help those who wanted assistance with recommendations regarding renovation or mortgage. Many wanted their kin to do construction. Issues regarding IRS rules and professional statements of completion were discussed. Infighting ensued. I had to leave meeting at 10 before meeting was adjourned.