

**Observer:** Carol Mullins

**Present:** Robin, Bonnie Lockhart, Krissie Harris, Claire McFarland Barber, Carlis Sutton, Burns (about 9:30), Reid absent Housing Program

**Start:** 9 am, quorum at 9:10 am

**End:** 10:40 am

Testimonials were simply public comments.

Minutes from both February 2nd and March 2nd were approved unanimously.

**Discussion:**

Amendment to restorative housing program, goal for those seeking cash is to be unrestricted, hoping it will be used for housing. Beneficiaries of ancestors, who have passed away, will receive cash.

**Creation of cash benefit program:**

goal to be unrestricted, however Nick Cummings said "harm" needs to be quantified in dollars. Previous litigation in Richmond failed because harm amount not stated in dollars.

**Establishing reparations committee working groups:**

Economic development, housing, educational initiatives, community unity. Each committee will be chaired by a committee member and will need volunteer participants. Nick Cummings reminded group to not violate open meetings act by having more than 2 committee members on each group. Community unity is very important. According to Robin, she is a victim of hate messages.

**Update on Equitable Zoning Project:**

Sue Loelback, Connections for Homeless, gave a thorough, cogent and most interesting description of this project, their partners, Chicago Community Trust, Evanston Community Foundation as well as consultant, Zonoco. Nick Cummings said general assistance funds may be used in this project, As affordable housing. I am very, very positively impressed by their research. Zoning does need reform.

**Update on informational session with families of deceased ancestor reparation recipients:**

Committee member, Claire McFarland Barber is an estate attorney and held this session to help these families understand estate issues. It was highly welcome, receiving many compliments.

Action: reparation financial report, voted to place on file.

Reparations equals about 1% of city budget. They have received slightly more than \$500,000 from real estate transfer tax.

**Takeaways:**

Tasheik is managing this single handedly with some help from interns, she and Robin have found an outside grant, but goal is to find enough outside money to fund a full time employee. This is a very hard working committee, seeking to meet needs of the people. Many asked about

another application cycle. That has not been decided yet. 600 applied during first round. People who qualify and don't live in Evanston are also eligible for funds.

**Public comments:**

LoVett: can help with people who don't understand

Tina Paden: congrats for cash payments and more criticism on affordable housing.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 for which Robin apologized