

Time: 6:30-8:00pm

Note: The acoustics in the room were poor due to lack of mikes and sound of fans so if words are missing from this report, they are deliberate omissions.

Jane Grover, Chair; Delores Holmes, Julia Corbierde Lara, Monte Dillard, Ald. Melissa Wynne, Alejandra Ibanez, Kathy Lyons, Pat Efium and Commar Jensen, Sustainability Officer.

Citizens Comments: Two spoke on hopes that the recommendations would be acted on by the City Council. A third gave an impassioned statement on discrimination and a fourth on something about lawns and city code.

CARP Policy Engagement – Kumar Jensen, Chief Sustainability and Resilience Officer. Mr. Jensen gave an update saying he had taken the plan to the Environmental Board and they felt he needed more time and thought the ideas needed better framing, (easier to understand by lay people.) Then he asked the Commission members what role they wanted to have.

Kathy Lyons said there is software that can adapt material to a grade level of understanding. She is suggesting sixth grade. Monte Dillard hastened to say it isn't a question of intellect but a familiarity with the subject matter.

Delores Holmes said she is concerned with affordability of the changes.

Kathy Lyons said she is hearing that it isn't so much the individual home owners as it is the businesses etc. Mr. Jensen responded that the contract with the company responsible for collecting waste from the businesses etc. comes up next year.

D. Holmes said she hope the City Council will ask the company about number of local African American employees.

Jane Grover suggested that M. Jensen ask to be on the agenda of various groups rather than just having special meetings to gain input on the plan and handed him a list of her recommendations.

“Solutions Only” Report

D. Holmes reported that two meetings were held and dozens of ideas were given. (To see the list, go to Equity and Empowerment website and look at the July 18 Packet.) Emphasis was on Housing and Economic Development. The first meeting was brainstorming and the second prioritizing.

J. Grover said that she would like the Commission to be the body to carry out the recommendations. First the subcommittee will prepare the formal recommendation which will be acted on by the Commission at its August 15 meeting and go to the September City Council meeting.

Dr. Epium showed a book prepared by the Kellogg Foundation on Truth and Reconciliation.

Alejandra Ibanez said our local YWCA provides a model.

There seemed to be agreement that the process needs to be Evanston specific.

Vice Chair: Monte Dillard was elected Vice Chair and there was consensus that Jane Grover’s term should be extended.

Work Plan: The Chair and Vice Chair will review and update the plan.

Announcements:

The Skokie Holocaust Museum has an exhibit on slave trade including -----

An Evanston group is sponsoring a bus to Montgomery -----

The 2nd Baptist Church is having a Resource Fair on Sunday at 12:30 at Simpson and Ashland.

The petition about the use of the Homeland Security Bus was given to the City Council. Discussions are being held at the County level about the use of the bus and other issues including the name of the department.