

JOINT ROBBINSDALE CITY COUNCIL & HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

Robbinsdale City Hall – 6:00 p.m.

1. The work session was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem Kline at 6:00 p.m.
2. Councilmembers Present: Kline, Webb (6:18pm), Selman, Backen, Mayor Blonigan
HRC Members Present: Fox (6:09pm), Ralston-Aoki, DeGross, Moberg, LaTour

HRC Members Absent: Rathell, Sussman, Beahen
3. Staff Present: Marcia Glick, City Manager; Charnelle Dengnoue, Human Resources Specialist

PRESENTATION: Racism As A Public Health Issue

4. Ralston-Aoki handed out information on racism as a public health issue and also distributed a draft on a Racial Equity Plan. She noted that work on these issues were a goal from the previous community input sessions. Included in community work has been the crime free housing study, conversion therapy ban, the new community outreach position, the new community relations officer, the 2020 racial equity forums and a council call to action.
5. The foundation of racism as a public health issue are the social determinants of health. She noted resources included the Hennepin County Health Department and grants. Selman noted the importance of schools in providing resources. Glick noted the work of the North Memorial CEAT prioritizing public health issues with the example of the recent development of the North Market and clinic.
6. For progress on a Racial Equity Plan Ralston-Aoki suggested formation of a taskforce and reviewed the other elements in the draft Racial Equity Plan.
7. Council members thanked the Human Rights Commission for their work and noted that there would be a need to add staff to do this.

The meeting recessed at 7:00 pm and reconvened at 7:06 pm

8. Webb suggested checking in with Harper Steinbach on progress with outreach work. Council members noted that the program would need to allocate resources and add a staff member. Glick noted that there is already a development tool kit that was developed as part of the LRT project. Webb also mentioned the need for staff to communicate with Council on their work efforts toward diversity.

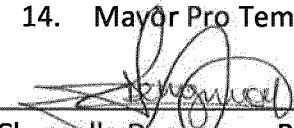
9. Dengnoue provided information on the recent implicit bias and overcoming unconscious bias training, the regular bi-meetings that she, the City Manager and Ms. Steinbach had to review outreach and training opportunities for all City staff.

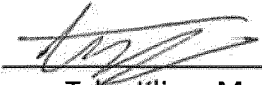
DISCUSSION: Human Rights Commission Initiatives

10. Glick noted that previously in reviewing events held in the city, she had noted that the events currently solely planned and executed by the city reflected city services and programs and that the park naming policy had been developed prior to a fund raising effort for the LVT Pavilion.
11. There was a recap of the relationship between the advisory commission work and the City Council.
12. Blonigan noted that it is more transparent for the public to have regularly scheduled meetings.
13. Glick clarified that while the listing of the city events at the top of the green sheet are just for the upcoming week, there is also a listing of future events and "save the dates" so people can mark their calendars. She indicated that the community outreach meeting on the proposed racial equity plan for Robbinsdale could have been publicized, including providing opportunity for council members to attend, by making council aware of the event in advance.

ADJOURNMENT

14. Mayor Pro Tem Kline adjourned the meeting at 7:54 p.m.


Charnelle Dengnoue, Recorder


Tyler Kline, Mayor Pro Tem