ATTENDEES: Sonia Canzater, Isaac Cudjoe, Pat Grant, Sylvia Hernandez, Jared Hautamaki Shuo (Jim) Huang, Tasnuva Khan, Jordan Neal, Willie Parker-Loan, Izola Shaw, Selena Mendy Singleton, Jim Stowe, Gustavo Torres, Partap Verma (Chair)

ORESJ Staff: Tiffany Ward, Andrea Gardner, Gimari Jones, Sarah Alvarez

Not in Attendance: Shane Lloyd (Vice Chair), Betty Lam, and Troy Boddy

Guest: Pamela Zorich, Research Coordinator, Research & Strategic Projects Division – Montgomery County Planning Department – The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Chair Verma

Introductions

- Sarah Alvarez, a new ORESJ staff person, introduced herself.
- Jordan Neal, Isaac Cudjoe, and Tasnuva Khan introduced themselves as new RESJAC members.

AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as amended.

NEW BUSINESS

Item: Retrospective on Committee’s Work from September 2020 to April 2021

- Chair Verma suggested moving the committee retrospective to the next meeting since Vice Chair Lloyd is leading this work
PRESENTATION

Item: Racial Equity and Planning – General Plan 2050

- Special Guest Pamela Zorich was introduced by Committee Chair Verma
- Ms. Zorich provided a presentation on Montgomery County’s Thrive Montgomery 2050 Plan - the update to Montgomery County’s General Plan, its long-range policy framework for guiding future land use and growth for the next 30 years.
- Chair Verma provided some background on next steps with the plan

MINUTES - none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Item: RESJAC Funds for community education and other mandated activities

- Ms. Ward shared the following:
  - The Committee has $25,000 budgeted for community education and other mandated activities. Deadline for using funds is by the end of June (Funds need to be allocated by that time)
  - The committee has to decide how the money will be spent
- Chair Verma asked if the Committee could plan in-person activities now that the County is starting to open up from COVID restrictions
- Mr. Huang and Ms. Shaw suggested using the funds to get community input on programs and policies so that the Committee can understand how to inform the County
- Ms. Canzater suggested using the money to conduct outreach around housing equity (in relation to tonight’s presentation), perhaps through needs assessments.
- Ms. Khan suggested potentially focusing on the Fairland community/Burtonsville Crossing sector, which has a lot of engagement.

Action: Ms. Khan will engage with her connections in that community to get some feedback on how the Committee can partner with them.

- Mr. Cudjoe suggested using the funds for some of the events that are happening outside, such as the Juneteenth event at Black Rock Center.

Action: Mr. Cudjoe will research details on how the Committee could use those funds to support training and education efforts at that event.

- Mr. Stowe (who is leading the Juneteenth celebration, as the Director of the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights) echoed Mr. Cudjoe’s suggestion and shared that the event is a full day of activities from 10am-10pm.

Action: Mr. Stowe will send the flyer and other information to Ms. Ward.

Item: Sub Committee Meeting Structure
Mr. Stowe suggested that it might be helpful to look at the work and build committees as the work presents itself during discussions and presentations.

NEW BUSINESS

Item: Committee Retreat
- Ms. Ward introduced the idea of a Committee retreat

Action: Ms. Ward will send date options via email or via a Doodle Poll for the retreat

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - none

ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm by Chair Verma