



**RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2022 (6:30 PM)**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

**ATTENDEES:**

**Committee Members:** Izola (Zola) Shaw (Chair), Shane Lloyd (Vice Chair), Selena Mendy Singleton (Parliamentarian), Isaac Cudjoe, Shuo Huang, Jared Hautamaki, Willie Parker-Loan, Betty Lam, Partap Verma, Sonia Canzater, Jordan Neal, Pat Grant, Jim Stowe, Gustavo Torres

**Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice Staff:** Tiffany Ward

**Absent:** Tasnuva Khan, Sylvia Hernandez

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm by Chair Shaw.

**AGENDA**

No objections or additions.

**MINUTES**

No objections or additions.

- January 17 meeting minutes approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Item:** April 19-21 GARE Conference

Discussion Highlights:

- Tiffany Ward reported on the Government Alliance on Race and Equity's (GARE) National Convening.
- Committee members are invited to participate in the GARE National Convening taking place on April 19-21.
- The Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice will pay for the virtual attendance of members.
- The theme of the convening is Re-imagining Government for Racial Equity.
- Tiffany Ward asked interested members to email her.

No motions or votes taken.

**Item:** RESJAC Retreat II

Discussion Highlights:

- Tiffany Ward will reach out to Shane Lloyd, Selena Mendy Singleton, Jim Stowe, Pat Grant, Jordan Neal, Izola Shaw, and Isaac Cudjoe to set up a planning meeting for the RESJAC spring re-treat.

No motions or votes taken.

**Item: Review public statement condemning hate speech**

Discussion Highlights:

- Shane Lloyd led a discussion to review the draft RESJAC statement to condemn hate speech.

Action: Jared Hautamaki moved to adopt the statement condemning hate speech. Izola Shaw and Shuo Huang seconded.

The vote was unanimous. The following members voted to adopt the statement: Izola Shaw, Shane Lloyd, Selena Mendy Singleton, Isaac Cudjoe, Shuo Huang, Jared Hautamaki, Willie Parker-Loan, Betty Lam, Partap Verma, Sonia Canzater, Jordan Neal, Pat Grant, Jim Stowe, Gustavo Torres

**RENTAL RELIEF PROGRAM DISCUSSION**

Discussion Highlights:

- Ms. Amanda Harris, Chief of Services to End & Prevent Homelessness, MCDHHS, presented and led a discussion on the County's COVID 19 Rental Relief Program.
- Ms. Harris talked about how the criteria for receiving COVID relief rental funds including income requirements and targeted zip codes; immigration status is not considered when applying or receiving rental assistance.
- Ms. Harris outlined the application process and the steps needed to complete the process and the timeline of when residents should receive funds.
- Ms. Harris remarked that the program will receive less funding for the upcoming fourth round than the previous rounds.
- Ms. Harris pledged to work with committee members who have knowledge of particular cases that have been delayed or who have not received funds despite a viable application.

No motions or votes taken.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Item: Reparations Discussion**

Discussion Highlights:

- Shane Lloyd led a discussion on reparations for Black people in Montgomery County.
- Shane Lloyd suggested the committee look at how other jurisdictions that have implemented a form of reparations.
- Committee members suggested that we work to educate Montgomery County constituents.
- Committee members suggested we get a clear definition of reparations before proceeding. Shane agreed to create a memo with the definition of reparations from leading expert William "Sandy" Darity, PhD.
- The committee agreed to creating a reparations subcommittee; the following members expressed interest in joining the subcommittee: Shane Lloyd, Izola Shaw, Shuo Huang, Pat Grant, Partap Verma.

No motions or votes taken.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Jim Stowe announced the Feb 18 Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things: For the Fight for Freedom event at the Strathmore.
- Partap Verma announced that the Parks Department will host several Black History Month family events. For details check the Parks Department online calendar.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm by Chair Shaw.