



RACIAL AND ETHNO-CULTURAL EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

January 11, 2024

A meeting of the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 5:35 pm via electronic means.

- PRESENT:** Steph Kallstrom, Chair
Nimrah Anwar
Harjot Banwait
Victoria Barclay
Alexandra Gunn*
Alemu Nenko
Lydia Tang
Pavandeep Toor
- ABSENT:** Naina Varshney, Vice-Chair (Leave of Absence)
Ajay Puri (Leave of Absence)
Mo Rafiq
Jeremiah Rojas (Leave of Absence)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Pete Fry, Council Liaison
Councillor Lenny Zhou, Council Liaison
April Sumter-Freitag, Social Policy, Staff Liaison
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Olivia Kam, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting

WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Peoples. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

Leave of Absence Requests

MOVED by Lydia Tang
SECONDED by Alemu Nenko

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve a leave of absence for Naina Varshney, for this meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Alexandra Gunn absent for the vote)

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Lydia Tang
SECONDED by Victoria Barclay

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the Minutes from the meeting of Thursday, November 09, 2023, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Alexandra Gunn absent for the vote)

1. Gastown Public Spaces Plan

Staff from the Engineering Department presented the Gastown Public Spaces Plan to the Committee and responded to questions.

2. Liaison Updates

The Council Liaisons and the Staff liaison provided updates.

3. Committee Discussion

The Committee discussed the impact of the Palestine-Israeli conflict and agreed to further discuss the Canadian Police Board response for Black offenders at the next working session. The Committee also discussed writing a media release regarding improving interactions with the healthcare system, to be approved at a future regular meeting.

MOVED by Nimrah Anwar
SECONDED by Lydia Tang

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee designate Nimrah Anwar, Steph Kallstrom, Lydia Tang, Alemu Nenko and Pavandeep Toor to develop recommendations for City Council regarding a ceasefire in the Israel-Palestine conflict as well as humanitarian aid and support for the community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Work Plan Discussion and Approval

MOVED by Victoria Barclay
SECONDED by Nimrah Anwar

THAT the Racial and Ethno-Cultural Equity Advisory Committee approve the Work Plan for the 2023 – 2026 term.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Subcommittee Updates

None.

6. New Business

None.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Nimrah Anwar
SECONDED by Lydia Tang

THAT this meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting:

DATE: Thursday, March 21, 2024
TIME: 5:30 pm
PLACE: Cascadia Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall
/ Webex Online

The Committee adjourned at 7:19 PM.

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