

Minutes for Greenbelt Reparations Commission Meeting

March 14, 2023

Council Chambers, 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Present:

In person: Rhema Bjorkland, Frank DeBernardo, Lorena Ferdinand, Josh Hamlin, Adriane Bond Harris, Mark Miller, Denise Nadasen, Bob Rand, Lois Rosado, Jonathan Taylor, Mark Wilson (alternate)

Via Zoom: Tom Adams, Chelsea Barnes, Gail Crichlow, Yahshua Ford, Chiquita Jackson, London McCloud, René Sewell-Raysor, Pamela Taylor, Sarah Wampler

Co-facilitators: Adriane Bond Harris and Denise Nadasen

1. Welcome and Check-in

Members shared one word to describe how they were feeling and an idea, question, comment or insight regarding the past meeting or the work of the Commission

2. Making Decisions

There was extensive discussion on how the Commission would make formal decisions. The discussion included the meaning of a quorum, majority of those present, whether the Commission needed to follow the Council's rules for decision-making, whether votes on some matters would be deemed important enough to seek more than a majority of those present (for example, a supermajority of the entire Commission), the practical usefulness of using Robert's Rules of Order as a starting approach, whether voting needed to be in public.

Motion by Jonathan Taylor to adopt Robert's Rules of Order for voting and process to get the Commission started; second by Lois Rosado

Yes: Tom Adams, Chelsea Barnes, Rhema Bjorkland, Frank DeBernardo, Yahshua Ford, Josh Hamlin, Adriane Bond Harris, Chiquita Jackson, London McCloud, Mark Miller, Denise Nadasen, Bob Rand, René Sewell-Raysor, Lois Rosado, Pamela Gail Taylor, Jonathan Taylor, Sarah Wampler

Abstaining: Lorena Ferdinand

The motion carried.

3. Upcoming Meeting Dates

Based on feedback from Commissioners, the third Tuesdays and third Wednesdays of the month were determined to be the most inclusive dates.

Motion by Denise Nadasen to rotate third Tuesdays and third Wednesdays of the month for future meetings, beginning with Tuesday, April 18, for the next meeting.

Yes: unanimous vote

The motion carried.

4. Public Comment

There was discussion on how to allow public comment, including consideration of how the Council handles public comments, and how we might hold special meetings to gather more public feedback.

Proposed by Denise Nadasen to allow public comments during the last ten minutes of each meeting, allowing a maximum of three minutes per commenter, with no objections.

Agenda items deferred until future meetings: role and formation of the steering committee and hiring a facilitator

One public comment was received by the Commission from Bill Orleans encouraging transparency and openness.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.