



MAYOR'S COMMISSION ON COMMUNITIES OF COLOR Minutes – April 9, 2018

Present: Mayor Jim Paine, Kym Young, Jerel Benton, Natasha Lancour, Stephan Witherspoon, Rani Gill

Mayor Paine welcomed the Commission Members and introductions were made. Mayor commented that he was not going to run the meetings, but that the first item on the agenda should be to elect the Chair of the Commission.

By unanimous vote, Kym Young was elected Chair of the Commission. Young took over the meeting to discuss the Commission's vision, potential new members and future agenda items.

This Commission is a policy making body which will report to the City Council. (All minutes will go on the next Council Agenda as part of the record).

What is the vision of this Commission for the next two years? A statement should be drafted to ensure:

- Racial equality
- Recognition and response
- Inform the community that this Commission is real about issues
- To be representative of everybody
- Equal employment opportunities, especially for single moms
- Housing issues, specifically dealing with State laws
- Jobs, social security and dealing with the police department
- To get along as a community
- Power to ask questions without the red tape

Benton stated that he is new to his community and wants to be part of this Commission as UWS is a big component in diversity issues and could be a good resource.

*Council
7/17/18*

Talked about new members and Young came up with some names that would be good as commission members. There should be 7-9 members.

Pat St. Germaine
Gary Johnson
Sakib Mahmood
Izzy Turner
UWS students of color

Future agenda items:

Social Services – practices and protocol
Training with cultures – equity lense
Identify priorities for the year
Community relations with UWS
Jobs – unions – employment equity city wide
Sustainability – housing – home ownership
Citizens Committee
Community policing
Women of color – discrimination – process
City Council – report back to them six months from now
Mayor – review higher policies of City and make them equitable

Meetings will be held the 2nd Monday of each month. Next meeting will be Monday, May 14th
@ 1:00 pm, in Room #300.

Motion by Witherspoon, seconded by Lancour, meeting adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Rani Gill
Chief of Staff to the Mayor