



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT

**CITY COUNCIL Racial Equity, Inclusion, and  
Belonging Committee**

c/o Community & Economic Development Office

City Hall, Room 32 • 149 Church Street • Burlington, VT 05401

802-865-7144 VOX • 802-865-7024 FAX • [www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo](http://www.burlingtonvt.gov/cedo)

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**Minutes REIB Committee**

**Rescheduled to: Tuesday May 18th 2021 5:30pm – 6:30pm**

**Originally scheduled and cancelled: Weds May 12th 2021 5:30 pm – 6:30pm**

**Remote meeting by Zoom - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83481159674>**

**Present:**

**Councilor Ali Dieng, Chair, (AD) Ward 7**

**Councilor Perri Freeman, (PF) Central District**

**Councilor Brian Pine, (BP) Ward 3**

Staff: Tyeastia Green (TG), Director REIB Dept; Belan Antensaye (BA), REIB;  
Vanessa Santos Eugenio (VSE), Human Resources; Marcella Gange, CEDO  
(Committee Staff)

Public: Megan Polyte GMT Commissioner and Lisa Rees, Milton

Meeting called to order at 5.39pm

- 1) Motion to approve the Agenda: Proposed BP – Second PF – unanimous vote
- 2) Motion to approve the [Minutes](#) of the REIB Committee 03/16/21: Proposed BP – Second AD – unanimous vote
- 3) Public Forum: Megan Polyte Commissioner of Green Mountain Transit, GMT released an RFP to support their Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion work and planning and the Commission wants to ensure it coordinates with City work. Transport Equity Committee is working out of Old Spokes Home. Seeking members of the public to join this equity work – monthly meetings.
- 4) REIB Dept Updates Dir Green: The contracted work with Talitha Consulting is expected to be completed by end June. Dir Green is keen to ensure the contract for the BPD operational assessment allows sufficient time for the assessment. Juneteenth Events – major planning underway for events from 10am to 11pm. The recruitment period for interns is complete.

The programs and services of the City of Burlington are accessible to people with disabilities.

For accessibility information, call 865-7144. For questions about the meeting, contact Marcella Gange at [mgange@burlingtonvt.gov](mailto:mgange@burlingtonvt.gov) or 802 865 7178

PF – Is there an update on the Reparations Task force? Dir Green: The Task Force met in May and received a presentation from the scholar. The team wishes to complete the scanning of the City’s document store, to ensure that a full records search can be conducted. Questions raised by the scholars will be addressed at an upcoming Task Force meeting. The scanning work is expensive but essential and the team is addressing how best to meet the cost and working with other relevant depts (Planning).

BP- Would you talk to your requested staff and dept increase in the budget presentation? Dir Green – The budget request is to fund expansion of the Public Health Equity Team (to two members), one Equal Opportunities Specialist and one Curriculum Manager for training. Also within the request is funding for temporary anti-racism trainer positions to support staff, council, and boards and commissions, in a 32 week training program. Training outcomes will be supported with qualitative surveying for climate change.

AD – may Councilors attend the Reparation Task Force Meetings? Also, AD appreciates the concept of the Racial Equity Toolkit created by REIB and wonders when it should be used by staff etc and when will it be available?

Dir Green – The Task Force meetings are open and warned and details are on the City website. Awaiting Mayoral order to require the use of the Toolkit.

BP – Also appreciates the Racial Equity Toolkit – practical, real content and short enough to use regularly.

AD – Is the ADA Committee functioning? VSE – a budget request has been made and working with community to determine use and function of the Committee.

5) REIB Committee Goals: Chair Dieng proposes to move forward with the creation of the REIB Commission, City Attorney Blackwood will have a member of her office join the REIB Committee for this work (include on invitation).

Clr. Pine would like the REIB Committee to review ‘Voting for All’

Clr. Freeman would like to include goals on Healthcare access, also COVID and mental health and community support approaches. Chair Dieng suggests including the Health Equity Managers in an REIB meeting, to discuss data access.

6) Open Forum Discussion – no discussion

7) Motion to Adjourn at 6.52pm, moved by BP, 2<sup>nd</sup> PF – unanimous.

Date of next meeting Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021 @5.30pm