



Racial Equity, Inclusion and Belonging
149 Church Street
Burlington, VT 05401
M: 802-503-2513

REIB City Council Committee

November 15, 2022 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Sharon Bushor Room, 149 Church St, City Hall, Burlington VT

Attendance: Ali Dieng, Phet Keomanyvanh, Kimberly Carson, Perri Freeman, Christine Hughes, Mark Hughes, Ali Dieng, Sydney VanTassel, Rev Mark Hughes, Kathleen Kemp, Isaac, Alexander Mitchell, Miha Longmore, Melo Grant, and James Alvin Wakefield

Link to Meeting Recording:

<https://zoom.us/rec/share/eQJytTrJzImISD3j5tUb0QBGNmj-NeA2i8UR04U3ez-6geEHylJpNA5rdzwdmMjn.4xYf4aJQvZAC5ULx> (Passcode: &q1mNi&*)

Approved Minutes

Start: 5:30

1. Motion to approve the agenda
Perri Freeman motions to approve the agenda, Ali Dieng seconds
2. Motion to approve the meeting minutes [October 18, 2022](#)
Ali Dieng approved minutes
3. Public Forum
Kathleen Kemp: Shares about supporting the work of the REIB Council Committee and committee meeting.
James Alvin Wakefield: Introduces himself and describes the impact of the work.
4. Welcome New Director
Kim Carson discusses her role as Director of REIB. Perri Freeman describes issues and policies that are important to Freeman's work. Asks how this committee can support the work of REIB. Carson describes that she will be moving to Vermont after Thanksgiving and how she will be moving the department forward.
5. Exploration of Creating a Commission



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Dieng describes the differences between REIB committee and commission. Freeman agrees and describes how commissions can improve community engagement and bring ideas forward. Commissioner Grant agrees, and Hughes and Carson ask about the commission's roles. Rev Hughes introduces himself and discusses the idea of a commission and appointment. Discusses the development of REIB, the resolution, and VRJA's support. Dieng adds an agenda item for next meeting to bring at least 2 additional BIPOC organizations to discuss the creation of a commission.

6. Reparations Task Force update

Christine Hughes discusses the potential of adding Deacon Hill to the Reparations Task Force and Pablo Bose as chair. Working on a proposal for community engagement and setting up a space to give updates on the task force. Discusses scope of research and would like to connect with Kim Carson. Every Thursday night there is something scheduled at 6pm at the Richard Kemp Center centered on this topic. Next one is called, Slavery is Abolished, Next Steps... Carson describes the development for the history of black lowans online course for teachers and the community members. Bor Yang has agreed to serve on the Reparations Task Force and her alternative will be Amanda Lucia Garces. Phet will send REIB resolution to Bor, Christine, and Kim.

7. REIB Department Updates

Phet Keomanyvanh discusses ARPA fund recipients, USCRI, VHEI, Spectrum, and USCRI. REIB allocated \$20,000 to VNAC on gun safety and gun violence and REIB has a staff member supporting this initiative. Discusses Dewey Park and bringing community members to support Call to Artists and to assess the best location for parks, however, there are some concerns about the sculpture, specifically location. Presented at NPA Wards 2&3 and are holding another community engagement event on December 5th from 5:30 – 6:30. Will share more details soon.

8. Community Forum

- Kathleen Kemp asks clarifying question on the time for the December 5th meeting.
- Rev Hughes discusses the sculpture and his participation in the process. Discusses REIB commission creation and inviting BIPOC organizations.
- Perri Freeman discusses sculpture, farmers market, and commission
- Melo Grant discusses sculpture and public communication, as well as the size in sculpture.
- Kathleen describes the location of the sculpture in connection with the ONE.

9. Motion to Adjourn



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Next meeting is likely 12/20/22, but Perri and Ali will confirm schedule over email due to upcoming holiday season. Next agenda item includes reaching out to the BIPOC organizations for committing a commission.

Ali Dieng motions to adjourn and Perri Freeman seconds.
Adjourn – 7:04

Minutes by Sydney VanTassel