

**CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT**

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

c/o Racial Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Department

149 Church Street | Burlington, VT 05401 | M: 802-503-2513

**Councilor Ali Dieng**, Chair, Ward 7

**Councilor Perri Freeman,** Central District

Staff:

REIB: Director: Tyeastia Green

Public Health Equity Manager: Marielle Matthews

Health Equity & Engage: Manager Nyla Ruiz

Racial Equity Trainer: Vanessa Bonebo

**Tuesday August 17th 2021 5:30pm-7:00pm**

**In-person meeting**

**Bushor Conference Room – 1st Floor City Hall, 149 Church St, Burlington, 05401**

**Draft Minutes**

In person meeting called to order at 5:42pm

1. **Motion to approve the agenda** 
   * Perri: moved to approve
   * Dieng: Second
   * In favor: 2 Opposed: 0 Abstaining: 0
2. **Motion to approve the draft** Minutes 05/18/21 & 07/20/21
   * Motion postponed till next meeting
   * Second: Perri
   * In favor: 2 Opposed: 0 Abstaining:0
3. **Public Forum** 
   * Sandy Barrett Ward 1- here to support the resolution and urge the council to adopt it
4. **Discussion**- [Resolution calling for a peaceful end to Palestine/Israel conflict](Doc1.docx)
   * Councilor Dieng: Clarification-Purpose is to bring resolution to city council for them to vote to approve
   * Wafik Faour: Resolution word change- From peaceful end to justice and peaceful end to Palestine and Israel conflict
   * Wafik Faour spoke in support of resolution and listed supporters
     1. (ASK FOR THE LIST OF SUPPORTERS FOR THEM TO BRING TO COUNCIL)
   * Helen Scott on board of AFL-CIO: applauds committee for supporting the resolution and bringing it forward, strongly urges its passage
   * Mousa Ishaq: spoke in favor of resolution and in solidarity of Palestinian people
   * John Heermans: read letter from Melanie Merkle Atha Episcopal Peace Fellowship
   * Enrique Balazar From Migrant Justice: spoke in solidarity with the Palestinian people and in support of the resolution
   * Nolan Rampy: start with acknowledgement of criminality of Israel’s actions, supports resolution
   * Ashley Smith (speaking on behalf of Community Voices on Behalf of Immigrant Rights): the group supports the resolution. Urges councilors to vote and campaign for the passage of the resolution so it can pass with a veto proof vote
   * Dan (LAST NAME): wants to acknowledge that passing this resolution is too late, better late than never but late… things have not gotten better they have always been this bad… urges city council to make sure that this passes in city council
   * Councilors will refer this resolution to the next city council meeting (Sept. 13th)
   * Ashley Smith: Will we be able to speak at the city council meeting? Will there be a time limit?
   * Councilor Dieng: It is the discretion of the chair, and it will take place during public forum
5. **Update REIB (REIB Director)** 
   * Marielle Matthews and Nyla Ruiz presenting on [Racism as a Public Health Emergency](https://cityofburlingtonvt-my.sharepoint.com/:p:/r/personal/nruiz_burlingtonvt_gov/Documents/Racism%20as%20PHE%20Presentation.pptx?d=w260419c846114a1e8ec6bdf2fab59a8b&csf=1&web=1&e=sWGn3I)
   * Hired 4 new racial equity trainers
   * Kicking off food insecurity program
6. **Open Forum Discussion** 
   * No members of the public spoke
7. **Date of next meeting** 
   * September 21, 2021 5:30 PM-7:00PM
8. **Vote to adjourn** 
   * Councilor Freeman moved to adjourn
   * Councilor Deing second
   * In Favor: 2 Opposed: 0 Adjourn: 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.