

Racial Equity Commission Minutes for April 27, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Attendance –

Liz Carter, Betty Curry, Namdi Brandon, Nate Davis, Kenyatta Clark, and Donald Hawkins – members, Council members Barbara Foushee and Randee Haven-O’Donnell – Council Liaisons and Anita Jones-McNair – Staff Liaison.

Call the Meeting to Order – 6:05p

The meeting was called to order by Hawkins, Chair.

Approval of March meeting minutes

Curry motioned to accept the March minutes, Carter seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.

Discussion -

Participate in Carrboro Day?

The commission agreed to be involved in the community when possible and work together to fulfill the charge of the commission. They also agreed to have a table at Carrboro Day on May 1st from 1-5p and encouraged all members to come out. The hope is to have available at the table commission applications, the Resolution Supporting Reparations for Black Carrboro, the One Orange Racial Equity Framework, and a brief survey for the community to fill out.

The survey should include questions like -

1. What is your experience with racism in Carrboro?
2. Have you been racially profiled in the Town of Carrboro?
3. What do you expect from community leaders?
4. Are you aware the Town has a Racial Equity Commission?

Vacant Commission Seats?

It was confirmed three seats are vacant – a youth member, Economic Sustainability Commission representative and Farmers Market representative.

Virtual or in-person meetings?

The group would like to continue at least for now participating in virtual meetings.

Town Council Report contents

The commission reflected over the past year. The need to work on a clear direction and message is a focal point. There was also discussion about the work of the commission is uncharted territory. Unfortunately, people of color are suffering, and the commission should help mitigate harm, be a catalyst in forging a new direction/vision and actionable items. An emphasis should be on economic justice. Several questions surfaced – what work should the commission do and what does it look like?

This year accomplishments

Participated in Advancing Racial Equity, The Role of Government training

Reviewed the Commission’s charge, Resolution Supporting Reparations for Black Carrboro and The One Orange Racial Equity Plan

Participated in presentations and discussions on

Carrboro Connects

Chapel Hill transit

IFC

Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness

Transportation Management Grant Application Ideas To Promote Travel Choices To and From locations

Talked with residents, shared information, and conducted a brief survey at Carrboro Day

Reflection and Action Items –

Importance of acquiring property to support affordable housing

Revisit housing definition – affordable vs low income

Leadership and team training for commission members (emphasis on racial equity)

Facilitated discussion on action items

Fill vacant commission seats

Conduct community listening opportunities

Review and discuss completed Town racial equity assessment lens of policies and practices

Help with voter registration efforts

Search for grant funds to replace the Oakwood Housing Complex playground

Subsidize mental health services for community members

Monitor progress on bus stops and shelters

Partner with IFC on work in the community

Revisit and prioritize action items at the next meeting.

Adjourn – 7:35p

Carter motioned to adjourn the meeting, Curry seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous.