



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Meeting Minutes - Approved TASK FORCE ON STRUCTURE OF CITY GOVERNMENT

Monday, July 30, 2018

6:00 PM

Pinney Branch Library
204 Cottage Grove Road

[50732](#)

Documents related to the Task Force on the Structure of City Government.

THE TASK FORCE MAY SUSPEND THE RULES TO STAND INFORMALLY AND ALLOW FOR PUBLIC DISCUSSION AND ENGAGEMENT OF ANY AGENDA ITEM

1 CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Carter arrived at 7:25 p.m. and Eskrich arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Other City Staff Present: Alder Ahrens, Alder Baldeh and Alder
Harrington-McKinney

Present: 6 - Rebecca Kemble; John E. Rothschild; Justice M. Castañeda; Maggie
Northrop; Eric S. Upchurch and Eileen Harrington

Absent: 3 - Paul E. Skidmore; Sheri Carter and Sara Eskrich

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Rothschild, second by Kemble to approve the minutes of the July 20,
2018 meeting. Passed by voice vote.

3 PUBLIC COMMENT

The Task Force voted to suspend Robert's Rules to allow free conversation.
Roger Goodwin registered to speak and provided comment.

4 DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

There were no disclosures or recusals at this meeting.

5 APPOINTMENT OF PERSON TO SUCCEED ALDER ESKRICH ON THE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Task Force unanimously agreed that Eileen Harrington would replace
Alder Sara Eskrich on the Government Officials Subcommittee

6 PRESENTATION BY ABHA THAKKAR AND THE NORTHSIDE NAVIGATORS ON PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGIES

Abha Thakkar and the Northside Navigators presented on public outreach and engagement strategies and the work performed by the Northside Planning Council and the Northside Navigators. In particular, the presenters discussed the difference between outreach and turnout and discussed many factors that may prevent people of color, low income, or those living in marginalized communities from turning out to participate in city government. The presenters also noted that being poor and being poor and black are exhausting and that just trying to survive the day leaves little resource leftover to attend city meetings or otherwise participate in city government. The presenters emphasized the importance of meeting people where they are and working to address issues (e.g., affordable housing and transportation) that could give people more stability and, thus, opportunity to participate in government. The presenters discussed a number of public engagement strategies they believe have been successful, including relationship mapping and a text message application that allows individuals to provide immediate feedback on questions facing the neighborhood. The Task Force asked questions of the presenters and engaged in further discussion on the topic.

7 PRESENTATION BY ANNETTE MILLER ON PUBLIC OUTREACH STRATEGIES

Annette Miller from Equity by Design presented on her experience with public outreach and engagement in the City with emphasis on her experience working on the Oscar Mayer transition. The presenter commented on many of the issues raised by the Northside Navigators and discussed her own experiences working in the community. She commented on the segregation issues facing the city, not only in where people live but in the city's public policy and government structure. She noted specifically the transportation challenges facing the city and how the challenges today (e.g., long transit times) are largely the same today as they were 20 years ago and how those present major hurdles in daily life. The Task Force asked questions of the presenter and engaged in further discussion on the topic.

8 PRESENTATION BY TASK FORCE MEMBER JUSTICE CASTANEDA ON HOUSING PATTERNS, DISCRIMINATION AND ITS IMPACT ON GOVERNANCE

Task Force member Justice Castaneda presented on housing patterns, discrimination, and its impact on governance in the City and, in particular, on how housing instability prevents people of color and low income from participating in democracy. Castaneda discussed how his presentation related to many of the issues raised by the prior presenters and encouraged the Task Force to continue discussing these issues as it discussed and addressed powers of the mayor, common council, and the city's boards, commissions, and committees.

9 UPDATE ON STATUS OF EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SUBCOMMITTEE AND COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Chair provided an update on recent meetings of the Executive Subcommittee.

10 STAFF REPORT - ONGOING TASKS

No discussion.

11 UPDATE ON TASK FORCE FUTURE MEETING SCHEDULES AND MEETING LOCATIONS

No discussion.

12 USE OF BUDGET FUNDS FOR TASK FORCE

No discussion.

13 ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

No discussion.

14 ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Rothschild, second by Kemble to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.