

Revised Minutes of the Special Committee on Racial Equity Meeting
November 2, 2023, via Zoom

Attendees

Committee: Margaret Della, Bob Fanuzzi, Bob Bender

Committee members with Extraordinary Circumstances: NA

Board members: Julie Reyes, Kelli Buford

Absent: Sebastian Chittilappilly

Agenda

The Special Committee on Racial Equity (SCRE) meeting began at 7:05 pm and Chair Margaret Della welcomed the community to the meeting.

The Chair welcomed Anthony Taylor, African American Senior Community Liaison, Office of the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit to present on engaging the community in accessing services available, support and information on related initiatives.

The Chair also welcomed Kelli Buford to join SCRE and she wished to accept if the Community Board 8 (CB8) Chair advanced the appointment. The SCRE Chair pledged to request from CB8 Chair Reyes for permission and appointment of Ms. Buford to the Committee.

The Chair highlighted upcoming community events, the work of the Committee in the Annual Report as well as listed all CB8 budget discussions and decisions as an important action in the district to advance equity. The Board should be proud of the work done across committees throughout the year highlighted in the report.

With the current crisis in the Middle East, the Chair and Committee underscored that we condemn antisemitism, Islamophobia and anti-Muslim actions in the district and anywhere. SCRE, and residents, call out any discrimination and oppression by any community. In calling out the oppression of one group in their hour of need underscores our collective responsibility to each other and value of each of us.

The Committee discussed the following next steps:

- Making sure our statement of values is back on the CB8 page and emphasizing our values especially in the face of bigotry, violence, and anti-semitism, anti-Muslim and anti-Islamic movements. CB8 office requests that community members suffering under these actions contact them and the 50th police precinct, if appropriate. The tone in the community also starts with us. What more can we do as CB8 members to uphold our

commitment to each other as colleagues and neighbors. Agree to disagree without being disparaging, find a way forward together, etc.

- CB8 would like to be a resource in the community for education on these issues, ensure the community is reporting hate crimes if experienced, and work to bring greater awareness of protections possible. SCRE will seek out options with Law, Rules and Ethics Committee on education regarding anti-discrimination resources from the City and nonprofit sector.
- In addition, SCRE will also focus this year on housing, budget and veterans' issues.

Next Meetings first Thursdays in January, April and May. The meeting adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Minutes submitted by Margaret Della.