

EQUITY SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
City of Spokane
Equity Subcommittee
City Hall Lobby, Tribal Room
01/21/26

Call to Order: 12:13pm

Attendance

Subcommittee Members Present:

Sebastian Ruiz (Chair), John Alder, Luke Kobin, Kiana McKenna (Joined at 12:51)

Absent:

KJ January, Naghmana Sherazi, Patricia Castaneda

Staff Present:

Alex Gibilisco, Andres Grageda,

Others Present:

Approval of Minutes

- Voted to approve December minutes

Agenda Items

Briefing Items

1. Recruitment Kick-Off – Sebastian Ruiz
 - Membership application links are live on the [Equity Subcommittee](#) page
 - Open to up to 12 positions, we are currently at 7 members
 - Jon suggested tabling at City Council meetings for recruitment, during meetings that we anticipate being well attended
 - Sebastian will try to find members that are available during the **February 2nd** meeting
2. Equity SC Learning on Budget – WG, All
 - What kind of questions about the budget process would the SC be interested in asking?
 - What are the departments that must go through the process?
 - Who are the people that oversee the processes for the departments?

- What data are they using to inform their process?
 - Council Budget Director, Kate Fairborn, is working on a “menu” of different budget processes
 - Sebastian requested that the menu be shared with the SC as soon as it’s available
 - How is the workgroup doing in communicating with the ES? Are there any outstanding questions from the group?
 - Kiana suggested sending a survey to the group to see what questions need to be answered
3. Commitment to Outreach – WG, All
- Attending community meetings
 - Tabling at different events
 - One on one meetings with Council Members
 - Best strategy is reaching out to the CM or their Legislative Assistant, say who you are or who you work for and the purpose of the meeting
4. Setting Milestones – Sebastian Ruiz
- Long Term Items for the Agenda
 - Quarterly Meetings
 - Presentations from Kate Fairborn
 - Off-Site Quarterly Meetings at different community centers (Spectrum, Nuestras Raices, MLK Center, etc.)
 - Community engagement about budgeting process and equitable budgeting process
5. Equity SC Legislative Priorities – All
- Sebastian suggested writing a resolution supporting specific state legislation that supports equitable outcomes
 - Andres suggested passing a committee resolution before next year’s Legislative Session with priorities that the SC would like the City to support

Standing Updates

1. Council Liaison Update
 - i. DOJ grant passed 5-2
 - ii. Community members will be able to submit traffic calming suggestions through 311 from 2/2 - 3/31
 - iii. Eviction Diversion ordinance is set for a vote on 2/2
2. Share successes in life, work or advancing equity
3. Equity – training ideas

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:05pm.

Next Equity Subcommittee Meeting, February 18th, at 12:00pm, City Hall, Tribal Room
(1st floor)

Prepared by:

Andres Grageda, Legislative Assistant to CM Telis

Approved by: consensus