

AFRICAN AMERICAN EQUITY RESTORATION TASK FORCE

BECK CULTURAL EXCHANGE CENTER

APRIL 26, 2022

5:00PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Meeting called to order at 5:16pm by L. Fitzgerald-Baker
2. **ROLL CALL** - – A. Olds, R. Olum, L. Fitzgerald-Baker; B. Lyons, D. Porter; M. Best; B. Hardin; D. Miller; D. Porter

Excused – Dr. ElAmin; George Underwood

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Motion made by B. Lyons, seconded by R. Olum. Motion carried.

Friday, March 25, 202

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EXTRAORDINARY MATTERS

Meeting w/ Equity and Education – Knox County Schools

Dr. El-Amin will be moving to West Virginia – will discuss task force members at next meeting

5. STAFF REPORT

- a. Cities for Financial Empowerment
- C. Lomax - Cities for Financial Empowerment – Update on opportunity Cities for Financial Empowerment – City of Knoxville successful in the process (3 stages – to the process – City has moved to phase 2; submitted – Matt Ryerson (heavily involved) – (United Way) other steps – offer free professional financial counseling to citizens in Knoxville. Knox County government is on board as well – use of public libraries – 4-5 months to get through phase 2. City will meet with the advisory committee (Brandon Hardin and Gwen MCKenzie); technical assistance organization will be assigned to us – Implementation proposal and identify how and where we will identify financial counselors – then go to Phase 3 once the place has been identified. Believes that it will be a huge benefit to the City of Knoxville.

Next steps – to submit a listing of advisory group (scheduling the cite visit – May 30 and August 5th)

Discussion by the following Anderson Olds; Charles Lomax – Notes available

b. National League of Cities – SCEI –

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C. Lomax = Update – very first grant that we applied and received. \$30K grant comes with a local match – identify where the local match will come from. – one of ten cities (Southern cities inclusion - 20 month cohort working with Cheryl Ball – Economic Community Development w/ Stephanie Welch; Tatia Harris also working on it; 10 month cohort working on the next phase.

Federal Reserve Bank (Atlanta) May 24-26 – Birmingham, AL - \$10K of the \$30K up to

\$60K plus another \$5K to come in. Reimburse for expenses. Depending of the Bench (Economic inclusion – focusing on primarily equity gaps. (Affinity groups to meet) – In terms of hiring a person - cannot go higher.

L. Fitzgerald – Description of each – SCEI and Cities of Financial Empowerment

c. Grant Specialist Position –

Grant Specialist Position – C. Lomax – budget hearings – salary - \$70K – passed by city council – new fiscal year (Full – time Temporary – includes benefits - \$49K or \$50 (bring Home plus benefits) - cannot raise the salary at this time – long-term commitment. Falls under Community Empowerment - C.Lomax – Specifies the number of positions under Community Empowerment – direct supervisor.

Discussion followed by L. Fitzgerald-Baker, Charles Lomax, A. Olds, B. Hardin
Notes available.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS –

Executive Committee - No report

Committee Engagement –No report

7. PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS

a. Taskforce Retreat Agenda and Objectives –

Objectives – May 4 – Task Force Retreat – 11:30am – 4pm – Change Center to host meeting (less than 20 people) – Matthew Best. D. Miller to host the lunch.

Agenda for Retreat (See Presentation by D. Miller –

Term Limit

Fiscal Sponsor

Discussion notes available by L. Fitzgerald, M. Best,

8. PUBLIC FORUM –

No Public Forum

9. ADJOURNMENT – (6:15pm)

Motion to adjourn by Matthew Best – seconded by David Miller

Next Meeting: May 24 at 5:00pm at Beck Cultural Exchan