

Howard County Council Racial Equity Task Force



Meeting: Land-Use and Housing Policy Subgroup Meeting

Start Time: June 15, 2021 4:03 PM

End Time: June 15, 2021 6:09 PM

Task Force Member Attendees:

Jessica Coates
Suzanne Haley
Phillips Engelke
Ian Kennedy
Peter Engel
Vonda Orders
Jonathan Edelson
Taneeka Richardson

Task Force Members Not Present:

Herbert Smith
Isabella Battish

County Council and Facilitator Attendees:

Lauren Marra, Groundwork Partners Facilitator
Felix Facchine, Council Staff
Kelli Berg, Council Staff

APPROVED Minutes:

Jessica Coates, Subgroup Chairperson, opened the meeting with a roll call and confirmed that a quorum of subgroup members was present. Ms. Coates moved to approve the meeting minutes from the following meetings:

- The Land-Use and Housing Policy Subgroup meeting on May 11, 2021
- The Racial Equity Task Force Kickoff meeting on November 19, 2020
- The Racial Equity Task Force Public Hearing on March 4, 2021
- The Racial Equity Task Force Public Hearing on May 6, 2021

Phil Engelke, Task Force member, seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved by the subgroup members.

After minutes approval, Lauren Marra, Task Force Facilitator, reviewed the meeting objectives. Task Force members first discussed and offered comments on the proposed definition for affordable housing. Task Force members generally agreed to expand the definition and vision for affordable housing. After discussing the definition for affordable housing, Task Force members began discussing the recommendations for the report. There was some disagreement among subgroup members on the

subject of the Moderate Income Housing Unit (MIHU) program and use of fee-in-lieu. Subgroup members ultimately agreed to recommend that MIHU units be required universally in Howard County. Task Force members then offered comments and edits on the full list of recommendations under zoning and affordable housing.

Following the discussion on zoning and affordable housing recommendations, subgroup members discussed the narrative change recommendations. Several subgroup members asked for clarification on Recommendations 1 and 2 under the narrative change category. Subgroup members agreed to revisit and re-work the narrative change recommendations before their final inclusion in the report.

After the review of recommendations, Task Force members voted on the recommendation placement in the final report. Subgroup members unanimously approved the “Zoning” and “Affordable Housing” recommendations to be included in the final report, pending the edits discussed during the meeting. Task Force members also unanimously approved Recommendations 1, 2, and 3 under the “Narrative Change” category to be included in the final report. Finally, Task Force members voted unanimously to change Recommendation 4 under “Narrative Change” into a statement of support to be included in the appendix of the final report.

Following the vote on recommendations, Ms. Marra reviewed the upcoming steps for the Racial Equity Task Force process and confirmed that this was the final meeting of the Land-Use and Housing Policy subgroup. Subgroup members offered brief reflections and gratitude with each other. Ms. Coates adjourned the meeting at 6:09 PM.