

**City of Hyattsville, Race & Equity Task Force Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 25th , 2025, 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm**

PARTICIPANTS:

TASK FORCE MEMBERS:

Co-Chair Nykia Clemonts (NC)

Co-Chair Daniel Amador Renard (DA)

Record Keeper Secretary Jocelyn Medallo (JM)

STAFF:

Race & Equity Officer Shakira Louimarre (SL)

Council Member Michelle Lee (ML)

COMMUNITY MEMBERS:

Christopher Koya

AGENDA / MINUTES:

7:03 pm - Welcome & Call to Order – Co-chair Amador

7:03 pm - 7:04 pm – Roll Call – Co-chair Clemonts

7:05 pm - 7:05 pm – Acknowledgement of Guests and Public Comment– Co-chair Amador

- Welcome Council Member Lee and Christopher Koya.

7:06 pm – 7:07 pm – Approval of October Meeting Minutes– Recorder Medallo

7:07 pm – 7:25 pm – Vision Statement Updates and Discussion – Co-chair Clemonts

- Vision Statement was with City Council and they just wanted a few revisions from us. We went back and forth with the groups listed. We have agreed on this Vision Statement.
- [Reviewed Vision Statement presented at 10/20 Council meeting and the proposed statement up for adoption in 11/17 Council Meeting]
- Debate was around whether we named protected classes in line with federally - recognized protected classes. We wanted to honor the work of the residents who attended the visioning session earlier this year.

- It went through on consent.

7:25 pm – 7:48 pm – Committee Worksheet Review and Discussion– Liaison Louimarre

- Worksheet shared is the formal worksheet adopted by Council.
- DA: Going from moving from Equity Plan, which is out there, and then moves us into what it looks like to implement this chapter. The theme for 2026 is to be present in the community and let people know we are here. Let me start by sharing some ideas to make actionable:
 - Council Member Lee is as our liaison. The number one resources to understand what is being considered at the City level is Council Member as a resource and a liaison to other Council Members that require more of that equity race. To make it more tactical, keep our dialogue continuous and to flag ordinances where we could provide advisory support.
 - As RETF, review Council meeting agendas and attend Council meetings or view recaps to identify pertinent issues.
 - Do we add a standing agenda item to the RETF Committee meetings? What if we loosely split the responsibility of monitoring or reporting back amongst RETF meetings?
 - Our role as advisors is evolving, so do we need to do communications with Council? Concerted effort over the course of a year to send a reminder or a memo – how do Council members communicate? – that says here is when to reach out to RETF for support.
 - Meeting agendas - if we need to share a perspective or analysis with Council.
 - Can we do a tracker for upcoming community events being coordinated with Council so that RETF members can attend.
- SL: One of the challenges to getting information to RETF is that we may not know about the all the events in the right cadence. SL will make an effort to send information in a timely manner, when available.
- Yearly public forum – Is a year too long to solicit inputs from residents? One way could be RETF Public Forum every 6 months to seek input.
 - There was so much goodness that came out of the Visioning discussion – January or February is a year out. The overall objective is to open it up for race and equity concerns that you want to raise as a community. We can decide on the facilitation format.

- SL: Initial thinking was 2 per year might be too much. There is not a standing budget, but I am hearing that there is more interest than this one touch point. If there is one gathering facilitated by the RETF but maybe there is another gathering done with another Committee or another collaboration.
 - NC: I support this idea.
- JM: How do we let other Committees know that we have a new Vision statement and changing mandate? Is it sharing the Vision statement and worksheet? Ideally, we would break down the silos between our Committees and collaborate on shared analysis.
 - SL: There are 13 committees.
 - Agreed to introductory outreach to Committees and attend at least 1 meeting throughout the year.
 - Explore if RETF can be highlighted in a media piece
 - CM Lee: Health, Wellness and Recreation Advisory Committee may have activities and events that engage the community.
 - SL: I would also put the Youth Advisory Committee on your radar as a good potential partner. There is a lot of equity overlap with that Committee. They are powerful leaders in Hyattsville.

7:49pm – 7:59 pm New Member Recruitment– Co-chair Amador

- DA: As we are turning a new page, this feels like a good moment to focus on recruitment. We have ebbed and flowed throughout the year. Can we identify three things that we can do over the next few months to recruit members? We have 4 RETF members. We have room for 4 new members.
- JM: Can we piggy-back on the previous discussion on outreach, highlighting what the RETF has accomplished and building some energy around this new chapter?
- NC: Can we host in the Instagram page?
- DA: I am hearing that we should develop messaging around the RETF. We could also consider an op-ed in Hyattsville Life & Times.
- SL: Council Member Lee has emailed an example of the communications team highlighting other Committees.
- DA: Is anyone on the call part of any community spaces that we haven't reached out to recently?
- SL: There is something to be said about also reaching out to your closest contacts to put it out there that you are looking for members. Add in the introductory email that we are also looking for new members.
- DA: Standard language would be helpful, and we can work on that next year.

8:00 pm – Adjourn Meeting – Co-chair Amador

- For future meetings, we will be requesting agenda meetings from RETF members. We will solicit input in advance of the meeting.
- SL: We have two implicit bias trainings coming up. Implicit bias awareness around tools and strategies when regular everyday activities face you. How do I identify if we are racially stereotyping and how can be a better neighbor? One is at the HVL Branch Library on Tuesday, December 2nd from 6-7:30pm and the other is Monday, December 8 at City Building from 6-7:30pm.
 - JM moves to adjourn; DA seconds.