
**SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
RACIAL EQUITY SPECIAL COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
11.18.2021**

1. **Call to order and roll call. Meeting adjourned at 10:11am**
Commissioners present: Miriam Zouzounis, Cynthia Huie; William Ortiz-Cartagena – joined at 10:15am
2. **Presentation from Tenderloin Merchants Association.** Rene Colorado presented about the Tenderloin Merchants Association. They formed after a small business was attacked. 99% of the board are immigrants and they've been trying to engage the immigrant community in government. Even before the Association, merchants came to individual board members for assistance. Lot's of Thai business owners that got engaged. Rene is the only full time Board Member engaged so they don't have the bandwidth to engage in policy but they would love to get more involved. Biggest challenges for his members: safety. Employees don't want to come to work because of unsafe conditions. Residents and merchants want more foot patrols- not cars. Bicycles and foot patrols need to be consistent. Preparing a letter to the Mayor requesting this. Between O'Farrell and Eddy, the TMA started an ambassador program (all aged ambassadors) that's been really helpful. The ambassador program typically doesn't need to utilize SFPD because of the established relationships with the community. Th-S, and Tuesday. The ambassadors are funded through the TLCBD.

No members of the public requested to speak.

3. **RE Action Plan Item 7.1.3: Discussion on a draft resolution - Centering Racial Equity.** Committee to discuss a second draft of the resolution required of City and County of San Francisco policy bodies to adopt. Commissioners discussed revisions and identified more areas to include in the resolution. LGBTQ serving businesses should also be highlighted. Add more clarification around workforce component – identify the role small businesses play in providing jobs and may be both workers and business owners.

No members of the public requested to speak.

4. **Demographics Survey.** Review and confirm draft demographic survey, based on Dept of Status of Women's survey, to be sent to all Commissioners annually and/or during their onboarding and affirm the survey tool. Commissioners agreed not to overthink the survey tool. It's to report who sits on the Commission. Commissioners discussed the impacts that socio-economic factors play in racial equity even though that is not measured.

No members of the public requested to speak.

Motion to adopt tool with 2 amendments (delete "Option 4 from survey" and change "Straight/homosexual" to "Straight/heterosexual." Moved by Commissioner Ortiz-Cartagena, 2nd: Commissioner Zouzounis. Unanimously approved.

5. **Update on the Racial Equity Action Plan Accomplishments.** Director Dick-Endrizzi reviewed action items and progress made. Kerry will plan on how presenting how we're tracking these various actions.

No members of the public requested to speak.

6. **Update on the Economic Mitigation Working Group (EMWG) set of recommendations.** Commissioner Zouzounis will provide an update to full commission about Supervisor Waltons ideas of ways to move forward.

No members of the public requested to speak.

Commission Reports and Future Agenda Items. Commissioner Zouzounis wants to work on more structural support for businesses that use EBT and are getting licenses revoked. Technical support grants. We need a strong policy agenda for the racial equity committee. EBT compliance. Commissioner Huie is still working on broadband access for merchants, thinking about ADA compliance and messaging. Shared spaces improvement – honing in on messaging to merchants. Looking at neighborhood by neighborhood data would be helpful.

No members of the public requested to speak.

7. **Adjournment. (Action Item)**

Motion to adjourn: Ortiz Cartagena

2nd: Commissioner Huie

Aye: Commissioner Zouzounis, Huie, Ortiz-Cartagena. Meeting adjourned at 11:50am.