

## February 7, 2024 V-MCC Equity Committee Meeting Notes

### Equity Committee – Agenda – 2/7

6:00 – Ice Breaker – What is your favorite amusement park ride ?

6:10 – Land Acknowledgement

6:12 – Review and approve or revise this agenda

6:14 - Approve or revise notes from 1-17 meeting

#### Outreach Initiative

~~6:20 – Review interview sign-ups / Add interviewer names as needed (volunteer request) – All~~

6:40 – “Coalition” Sub-group status – Kathleen

6:50 – Q&A regarding the V-MCC and Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice – All

- Sectors

- Journalists vs Change Agents

- Board member elections and Sectors

7:25 - Call for priority topics for our next meeting

7:30 – Adjourn

**FINAL**

Attendees: Kevin, Yvonne, Jessica, Lilian Abelha, Dr Steve Nourse, Milla, James

Meeting started at: 6:05 pm

#### **Ice Breaker – What is your favorite carnival ride?**

**Land Acknowledgement video** was shared by Kevin

**Review and approve or revise this agenda:** Approved with one revision; postponed discussion of outreach initiative.

**Approve or revise notes from 17 Jan 24 meeting:** Will be resent for review relative to having committee members' names in the minutes. Kevin noted that the group voted to meet every two weeks versus monthly.

#### **Volunteer Request – Identify / post an action to support NW tribes at the February V-MCC meeting**

- no volunteer for February

**Outreach Initiative;** postponed until next meeting

**Sign up: Outreach Interview signups by segment.** - deferred this topic

**Update re: subgroup meeting addressing “Take Action” effort for integrating our social services across the island (see Jan 17, 24 committee minutes for background)**

Kevin asked if anyone would like to co-lead with Kathleen. Lil is going to reach out to Kathleen and explore what she’s thinking. Lil also reflected on reframing the focus on ‘supporting’ others’ work to creating an umbrella organization to help the island. Kevin noted that the Community Council is still not widely well known on the island and so may not be in a place, yet, to be that umbrella organization. Jessica shared that this concept of better integrating our multiple social services is being discussed by numerous others on the island. Steve mentioned meeting Scott Daniel Hooker at the food bank where he was handing out clothes to those who needed them. He may be interested in joining our effort.

Kevin encouraged the committee to identify our aspirational goals for our Council despite current barriers like Board staffing levels.

Next discussion was focused on how we might use output from our Outreach Initiative to inform recommendations to the VMCC.

**Do we prefer the VMCC as “journalists” or “change agents”? Would either self-image impact how VMCC agendas are created and how meetings are conducted?**

Discussion: we need them to be both and we want them to learn from what we hear through our outreach efforts. Is journalism more ‘investigative’ versus ‘just’ reporting. Learn - Reflect and digest what was learned - Activating People to do things from what was heard.

A desire was expressed to have the VMCC Board (versus the entire Council) be change agents and that we (or some other committee) can act as investigative journalist which informs the Board. The Board can then ‘pull’ multiple levers to get action(s) taken based on that information.

Another perspective was expressed regarding how we listen to and act based on input from our ‘agitators.’

**Inclusion: Are there missing “sectors”? What are they? Should existing “sectors” be removed or combined? Do the existing sectors accurately depict elements of our Vashon-Maury community?**

This topic was introduced but not discussed at length. One comment - There are many families on the island who are working at least 2 jobs/parent. That

leaves them with having to find Childcare and that is a very large problem. Perhaps the Sector is Families with children?

**Outreach initiative** - Goal Statement: Group reviewed the statement for refreshing all present.

**Q & A Regarding the V-MCC and Equity:** Kevin reminded all that there are 2 members of this committee who are on the Board of the Community Council. We should be sensitive to this when making comments/observations about the Council and Board as we review the inputs received from our Outreach initiative.

**ACTION ITEM(S) from the above discussion:**

- Kevin will send out his notes and agenda for the next meeting.
- Kevin to distribute the questions re: the VMCC Board for review prior to the next meeting on 21 Feb 24.

**Topics for next month's meeting.**

- Lil referenced software for organizing called "Nation building" and volunteered to demo at the next meeting
- Should Board member selection be based on which Sectors the candidate might represent.
- How we can support the VMCC?

**Meeting adjourned: 7:32 pm**