

Cuyahoga County Equity Commission Meeting

November 18, 2021, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Cuyahoga County Administrative Building – Committee Room A

2079 East Ninth Street, 4th Floor

Cleveland, OH 44115

Cuyahoga County Equity Commission		
Last Name	First Name	Agency
Lockett	Lenora	Equity & Inclusion
Johnson	Vaughn	Development
Merriman	David	Health and Human Services
Guests		
Miller	Adam	Equity & Inclusion
Sinclair	Tyler	Communications

- I. Welcome
- II. Call to Order (10:03 am) – Director David Merriman
 - a. Review & Approval of Minutes
 - Motion to approve made by Deputy Director Johnson, seconded by Director Lockett, minutes approved.
- III. Public Comment
 - There was no public comment.
- IV. Opening Remarks from Equity Commission Members
 - i. Deputy Director Johnson spoke on efforts to continue and expand equity and inclusion trainings through 2022, which will be led by Calynn Carter. The Department of Development is in process of reviewing annual report with an emphasis on MBE metrics and continuing its collaboration with the Department of Equity and Inclusion. The Department of Development is also working on programs geared towards young adult entrepreneurship.
 - ii. Director Lockett gave an update on a series of upcoming trainings to be provided by the Department of Equity and Inclusion. The trainings will update vendors as well as internal county procurement staff on the recently approved SBE/MBE/WBE Policies and Procedures. The training for vendors will be virtual and will be recorded for easy accessibility on the County's YouTube page. It is scheduled for 11/23/21. The trainings

for county procurement staff will be offered in both virtual and in-person formats. All trainings will be recorded for easy accessibility on Microsoft Teams. Trainings will be held on 12/1/21 and 12/7/21.

- iii. Director Merriman spoke on HHS's focus on COVID/food insecurities programming. Programming went live on November 17, 2021, through December 2021. He also spoke on the launch of a new series of training programs that will address minority Ohio National Guardsman with disproportionated incomes. Currently the percentage of minorities who graduate with a four (4) year degree is 50%, while those who follow a two (2) year schooling program sees a graduation rate of only 25%. This program will be available to minority individuals in both scholarship degree and credentialed training programs.

V. 2022 Meeting Calendar (currently meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 10am)

- i. The Commission discussed possibility of changing the current monthly meeting schedule to that of a bi-monthly model for 2022 to coincide with the Equity Commission's Working Group bimonthly meeting schedule starting 2022. This alternating schedule would allow the opportunity to work on subject matter discussed in previous meetings. The intent is for the vote on the 2022 Meeting Schedule to take place at December's meeting. This will allow time for review and comment by absent commission members and the public.

VI. Discussion on Equity Report

- i. Internal team in the Department of Equity and Inclusion is currently working on overarching components of the Equity Report. The Communications Department will coordinate with the County Executive regarding his Statement of Purpose. The Department of Equity and Inclusion and the Communications Department will schedule a meeting after December 3, 2021 to discuss the overall report content and to prepare the combined draft.
- ii. Director Merriman stated that it is vital to think of the public perspective when creating report.

VII. Closing Remarks

- i. Director Lockett provided an additional reminder of the upcoming trainings on the SBE/MBE/WBE Policies and Procedures.
- ii. Deputy Director Johnson spoke on the assertive movement that Department of Development is taking regarding equity and inclusion.
- iii. Director Merriman spoke about County Executive Budish's decision to step down. Mr. Merriman expressed his thanks to County Executive

Budish for his work on declaring racism as a public health crisis, and his continuing efforts on setting a positive tone for the next administration.

VIII. Adjourn (10:36am)