

**DRAFT MINUTES
GENERAL COUNSEL COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING JUNE 30, 2020**

Present: Chairwoman and Councilwoman Carta, Councilman Nocera, Councilwoman Blackwell, Councilman Ford, and Councilwoman Salafia. Staff: General Counsel Brig Smith

Also Present: Mayor Florsheim and Chief of Staff Bobby Knoll Peterson

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment:

None.

New Business:

A. Ordinance – Anti-Racism Task Force Ordinance

The General Counsel introduced the ordinance and explained that it provided a structure to create a task force, but that the Commission's work this evening would be to flesh out that structure. In particular, the Commission needed to decide the number, terms, and makeup of the task force's members, as well as its mission and purpose.

As to the number of members, Chief of Staff Peterson advised that the Administration had in mind between 12 and 14 because of the concern that if the task force became too large it would become unwieldy. Councilwoman Blackwell suggested 15 members, which the group agreed upon. The group also felt that a 15-member task force would help avoid ties in voting because it would be an odd instead of even number.

As to the membership terms, the group agreed that four-year terms made sense. Councilwoman Salafia suggested staggered terms in order to maintain the task force's continuity. The group agreed and created staggered terms for three groups of five members.

As to the makeup of the members, Mayor Florsheim suggested that, rather than pigeonhole the task force into arbitrary categories right now, a more flexible approach would be best. Councilman Nocera suggested using the general areas of focus for anti-racism developed from the City's recent NCCJ study. The group agreed but determined that these areas belong under the description of the task force's purpose, rather than under the section on membership and terms.

As to the mission and purpose of the task force, the group agreed the six NCCJ categories should form the framework: housing, employment, health care, educational equity, policing, and criminal justice. The group also agreed that an additional category should be added for the term

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“inclusion.” Councilman Ford also suggested an opening statement in the section on purpose to encapsulate the broader context of the times in which we live and which sparked the creation of the task force in the first instance.

Councilman Ford made a MOTION to recommend approval of the ordinance as amended to the full Council. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Nocera. The Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

MOTION to Adjourn by Councilman Nocera. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Ford. The Motion passed unanimously.