

CEAFMP Advisory Committee

November 20, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Meeting held remotely via Zoom

Minutes

Call to Order

1. Bilan Aden called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM.
2. Roll Call:
 - a. Committee Members Present: Rachel Cassidy, Ross Parker, Jessica Zimbabwe, Sarah Igawa, Jasmin Weaver, Hillary Altmann, Catherine Costello, Vivan van Gelder, Reid Saaris, Andrew Thompson, James Wagar, Ted Kalmus, Christina Pizana, Kathleen Zagers
 - b. Board Directors Present: Eden Mack, Eliza Rankin
 - c. Staff Present: Fred Podesta, Ashley Davies, Becky Asencio, Deborah Northern, Paul Cathcart
3. Minutes from 10/23: Ted Kalmus made a motion to accept the minutes from 10/23/20. James Wagar and Vivian van Gelder both seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee members reintroduced themselves and shared why they were interested in serving on the committee.

Main Topic: Operating Manual

Chief Operations Officer Fred Podesta provided a recap of the Operating Plan Subcommittee's process and recommendations. (The subcommittee was comprised of Sarah Igawa, Andrew Thompson, Vivian van Gelder, and Reid Saaris.) Mr. Podesta reported that the subcommittee maintained its previous recommendation to suspend making recommendations to the Board regarding capacity, enrollment, and facilities master planning. He relayed the group's recommendations to shift the focus of CEAFMP to addressing racial diversity in its charter and composition. Mr. Podesta reminded the committee that the School Board is CEAFMP's "customer" and invited Director Rankin to convey the impacts, of the subcommittee's recommendations, on the Board's work.

Director Rankin acknowledged the tension between pausing to address the diversity of representation on the committee, thereby interrupting the status quo, and the decisions coming before the Board on a tight timeline.

Subcommittee members shared some of the group's thinking that led to its recommendations. They conveyed that the legitimacy of CEAFMP's recommendations depends on its composition being representative of the Seattle Public Schools community. They reiterated the need for meaningful consequences when CEAFMP is not representative. The subcommittee also sought a clear commitment from the School Board to take action on its recommendations.

Equity and Engagement Manager Deborah Northern highlighted work already in progress in the district to engage diverse voices and encouraged the committee to connect with that work. She also made suggestions to examine how information about CEAFMP and the application were presented.

Committee members discussed the information that was presented before voting on two items.

Item 1: Do we agree that we need to revise the charter to meet the diversity goals in the composition of the committee?

Nine participants voted in agreement with this statement. One voted in disagreement. Four remaining participants abstained from the vote.

Item 2: Do we agree to suspend work on policy recommendations to focus on reconstituting the advisory committee to represent the diversity of the district?

Four participants voted in agreement with this statement. Five voted in disagreement. Five remaining participants abstained from the vote.

Closing

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 PM