



# Minutes

**Committee:** Equity Committee

**Date:** 03/09/2023

**Duration:** 12:00 – 1:30

**Meeting Place:** Zoom virtual meeting

**Attendance:**

P = Present  
 TC = Attended via Dial in  
 A = Absent

Equity Committee Members							
P	Guen Brown	P	Claire Burrus	A	Junghee Cho	P	Kellee Coleman
P	Jesus Gonzales			A	Soleece Watson	P	Sulipsa Luque
P	Lori Neyland	P	Esteban Olave	P	Tiffany Hart		
Co-Chairs							
P	Netanya Jamieson	P	Kimberly Holiday				
Other Community Members							
	Jacob Alan Henson		Jaime Castleberry				
	Cassandra Richards		Karem Castillo				
	Patricia Barrera		Vedia Sherman				
ECHO Support Staff							
P	Chris Davis						
Other ECHO Staff							
	Preston Petty						

AGENDA		DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
I.	Welcome & Check-in		•
II.	2023 Legislative Session Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Texas Homeless Network (THN) Homelessness Awareness Day a couple weeks ago               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nerves and excitement starting the day, recognized the importance of giving legislators access to people with lived experience; set meetings with some, knocked on doors for those who didn't respond to meeting requests</li> <li>○ Throughout the day the nerves fall away and it becomes about building relationships; don't want this to feel overwhelming for people</li> <li>○ Can be terrifying to go to the capitol; overwhelming at first because it's so new – a lot of people don't learn this in school; great experience overall</li> <li>○ This process is open to everyone; you don't have to have institutional power – just show up and do it</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#">Recap of bills impacting PEH</a> (from THN)</li> </ul>	

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How to look up a bill: <a href="https://capitol.texas.gov/billlookup/billnumber.aspx">https://capitol.texas.gov/billlookup/billnumber.aspx</a></li> </ul>	
<b>III. Revisiting Workgroups</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● PLE meeting space <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Salvation Army shelter closure – some advocacy people wanted to do (long term not immediate); working on getting people together to do some research to respond to situations like this in the future</li> </ul> </li> <li>● APAT Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meeting 2nd Wednesday; hybrid format; will host a second March meeting (not typical) on the 4th Wednesday (3/22) – look for an email invite from Claire, and contact <a href="mailto:claireburrus@austinecho.org">claireburrus@austinecho.org</a> to join</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Trainings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Undoing Racism trainings with City – last weekend in March – let Kellee know if you’d like to attend: <a href="mailto:Kellee.Coleman@austintexas.gov">Kellee.Coleman@austintexas.gov</a></li> <li>○ Working on getting things together for this workgroup</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>
<b>IV. Updates &amp; Announcements</b>	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Salvation Army closure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Would it be possible to connect women with women in the community for a few nights?</li> <li>○ Leadership Council (LC) letter (<a href="#">link</a>), Public Health Commission meeting (<a href="#">link</a>); Mayor committed to providing a plan by Friday</li> <li>○ Foundation Communities has new buildings opening, St. Louise House has beds – can we house people temporarily in one of these spaces? Looking for creative solutions; TSA not saying anything says a lot</li> <li>○ Didn’t use to have shelter for single women; TSA is only shelter for single women, so we’re losing this when we lose the shelter – how do we address this need in the community?</li> <li>○ LC on Monday was an intense meeting</li> <li>○ Who do we give these suggestions to? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Greg McCormack at the City is convening a group to discuss possible solutions: <a href="mailto:greg.mccormack@austintexas.gov">greg.mccormack@austintexas.gov</a></li> <li>■ Reach out to your elected officials as well</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Affordable housing near I-35 expansion that would have to be demolished – another reason to advocate with your elected officials, etc.</li> <li>○ AJC has been doing demonstrations for people who want to get involved in protesting; delineate between your role in your position vs. you as a human being – don’t want to speak on behalf of your organization if that’s not</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●</li> </ul>

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION
	<p>permitted by your org (and/or check with your org to find out if they're okay with it)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Opportunity for advocacy in whatever way works for you – can you talk to your org about joining in the fight? Orgs come with resources individuals don't have; just being there, showing up is important</li> <li>● LC newsletter – contact Kimberly, Netanya, or Chris to add something to the newsletter</li> </ul>	
Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Next Meeting: 4/13/23 12:00PM – 1:00PM; Virtual meeting via Zoom</b></li> </ul>	