

**NOTE: THE COMMUNITY EQUITY COMMISSION MEETING WILL BE HELD
IN-PERSON AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM (link is below).**

Please note, individuals may attend in-person or virtually via Zoom. Doors will open 30 minutes prior to the start of each meeting.

When: April 11, 2024 05:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Community Equity Commission

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

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Persons interested in making their views known on any matter on the agenda should send an email with their comments to the Assistant City Manager at amuskopf@claytonmo.gov. All comments received will be distributed to the entire Commission before the meeting.

**Community Equity Commission
April 11, 2024 at 5:30 PM
City Hall, 10 N. Bemiston Avenue
Clayton, MO 63105**

Agenda

1. Welcome and Roll Call
2. Approval of March 14, 2024 Minutes
3. Reflection: Earth Day
4. Missouri Legislative Update with State Representative Ian Mackey
5. Appointment of Representative for Mayor's Commemorative Landscape Task Force
6. Voices for Change Update
7. Update to Recommendation to Amend Failure to Appear Ordinance
8. Update on Kirkwood for All
9. Update on Business Community Outreach
10. Public Comment
11. Comments from Members
12. Next Meeting: Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 5:30 pm
13. Adjourn

**The City of Clayton
Community Equity Commission
City Hall, 10 N. Bemiston Ave.
March 14, 2024**

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm.

Roll Call

Present: Chris Schmiz, Stuart Berkowitz, Lauren Rodriguez-Goldstein, Karin Schute, Ben Uchitelle, and JoAnna Schooler (ex officio).

Additional: Alderman Gary Feder

Approval of February 8, 2024 Minutes

Stuart Berkowitz moved to approve the minutes. Karin Schute seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Reflection: Equal Pay Day

Chris Schmiz led the Reflection.

Review of Traffic Stop Data by Chief Smith

Chief Smith presented 2023 Traffic Stop Data.

Philippine Village Historic Site Marker

Ben Uchitelle moved to approve the recommendation and language of the Philippine Village Historic Site Marker. Stuart Berkowitz seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Recommendation to Amend Failure to Appear Ordinance

Stuart Berkowitz moved to recommend that the Board of Aldermen the repeal and replacement of the Failure Appear Ordinance as proposed. Karin Schute seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Voices for Change Update

Chris Schmiz shared an update on the Voices for Change program.

Update on Meeting with Faith-Based Leaders

There has been no response from Faith-Based Leaders on attending the meeting planned for early April. Instead of the larger meeting, Sarah Rugenstone will be reaching out to schedule one-on-one meetings with members of the faith community.

Update on Business Community Outreach

No update.

Public Comment

No public comments.

Comments from Members

Lauren Rodriguez-Goldstein shared an idea for future discussion with Washington University's Prison Education Project – Reentry Program, focusing on ways Clayton can enhance its community support to make reentry following incarceration more welcoming for individuals.

Chris Schmiz provided an update on the Board of Aldermen discussion on the Community Equity Commission's Annual Report.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 11.

Adjourn

Having no other business, the Commission adjourned the meeting at 6:30 pm.

DRAFT



Clayton Community Equity Commission
April 11, 2024
Reflection

We begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are on the traditional homelands of Osage Nation, Missouriia, and Illini Confederacy.

We pay respect to elders both past and present, and we thank them for their hospitality and stewardship of this land.



April 22nd is Earth Day

Observed internationally in more than 192 countries, on this day we pause to celebrate the planet we live on and raise awareness of the need to protect the Earth and confront climate change

*Did you know
that where you
live can make you
ill?*

Black St. Louisans are disproportionately harmed by lead poisoning, air pollution, asthma, mold, and high energy costs and are more likely to have limited access to healthy food and live in areas with higher concentrations of vacant properties and illegal trash dumping. The greater environmental risks faced by Black residents contribute to stark racial disparities regarding health, economic, and quality of life burdens.

In 2019, the Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic at Washington University School of Law along with Action St. Louis, Arch City Defenders, Dutchtown South community Corporation and the Sierra Club published a report titled, “Environmental Racism in St. Louis” which exposed environmental injustices that “disproportionately endanger public health for people of color and low-incomes individuals in St. Louis.”

- The research found “Black St. Louisans are disproportionately harmed by lead poisoning, air pollutions, asthma, mold and high energy costs are more likely to have limited access to health food and live in areas with higher concentrations of vacant properties and illegal trash dumping.

- The greater environmental risks faced by Black residents contribute to stark racial disparities regarding health, economic, and quality of life burdens.”



The Data

Black children are 2.4 times more likely than white children to test positive for lead and accounted for more than 70% of children found to suffer from lead poisoning in 2016.

Black children in St. Louis made 10.8 times more emergency room visits for asthma (42.44 visits per 1,000 children) than did white children (3.93 visits per 1,000 children) in 2015. The zip codes with the highest number of emergency room visits due to asthma in 2015—63106 and 63107 in North City and 63118 in South City—are majority-black.

Mold was the third-most common complaint referred to Community Sanitation by the Citizens' Service Bureau in 2016. All but one of the City's majority-black wards had at least 6 interior mold complaints to the Citizens' Service Bureau in 2018, and 70% of the wards with 6 or more interior mold complaints were majority-black.

Nearly 52% of low-income households and 46% of black households in St. Louis face energy burdens that are more than twice the citywide median.

Black residents of St. Louis are almost twice as likely to have limited access to healthy food as white residents—11.9% of black residents compared to 6.3% of white residents. Food justice advocates have termed this phenomenon “food apartheid” to reflect the role of systemic racism in engineering this result.

Upwards of 90% of the City's vacant properties are in majority-black neighborhoods. Deteriorating buildings and untended lots are attractive targets for unscrupulous contractors to illegally dump construction waste, used tires and other trash rather than pay to use licensed disposal facilities.



*What can you
do?*

Know the facts, teach
the facts and advocate
where you can for
environmental justice.

*Children protect what they
love,*

love what they know

*and know what they are
taught.*