

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT MINUTES
Sept. 1, 2020

After determining that a quorum was present, the Committee on Community Engagement convened in a meeting on Sept. 1, 2020 at 10:32 a.m. in the City Hall Conference Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas.

PRESENT: Council Member Keely Briggs, Council Member Paul Meltzer, and Council Member Armintor

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Kuechler, Ryan Adams, Sarah Fullwood, Justin Harmon, Stuart Birdseye, Rachel Mendoza, Victoria Nakamura, Stephanie Yates, Maria Denison, Kali Flewellen

Note: Council Members Keely Briggs, Deb Armintor, and Paul Meltzer participated in the meeting via video/teleconference under the provisions allowed by the Texas Government Code Section 551.127.

A. Consider approval of the minutes of February 4, 2020.

Council Member Meltzer motioned, and Council Member Briggs seconded to approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and make a recommendation regarding alternatives to the use of the term “citizen” in City of Denton public meeting agendas and the Committee on Citizen Engagement.

Ryan Adams gave a report on the impact of removing the term “citizen” from all city agendas and from the name of the Committee.

Council Member Armintor motioned to recommend the City Council change the name of the Committee on Citizen Engagement to the Committee on Community Engagement. Council Member Meltzer seconded the motion. Discussion followed.

The committee discussed the benefits and drawbacks of changing the name of the Committee and to change word citizen when it doesn't apply specifically to national citizenship to “resident” to apply to agenda items and to bring that forward to Council. Additional discussion followed.

Meltzer offered friendly amendment to change “citizen” to “community” for the Committee name and when able, but not mandatory, from “citizen” to “individual community members” in

other public documents. The friendly amendment was approved. The motion carried unanimously.

C. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff feedback regarding the future of the City of Denton website.

Sarah Fullwood gave an overview of challenges of the current City website and the results of a business case study. Discussion followed with the committee requesting information on the chosen vendor at the appropriate time.


D. Receive a report, hold a discussion, and give staff direction regarding citizen engagement, communications, and transparency initiatives.

Ryan Adams presented a brief overview of updates on general and ongoing communications, engagement, and transparency projects, topics, and initiatives. Council Member Briggs noted that the updates were part of the agenda packet and could be reviewed independently. Council Member Armintor requested that an update on Engage Denton to be able to discuss community members' feedback.


Set Future Meeting Dates and Topics.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

The next scheduled committee meeting was to be determined.

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KEELY BRIGGS
CHAIR
CITY OF DENTON, TEXAS

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SARAH FULLWOOD
RECORDING SECRETARY