



The REAC met for its first meeting at 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 3, 2021 in the back conference room area of the Glendel Stephenson Municipal Building located at 106 East Washington Street.

Council Present:

Mayor Ed Hooks  
Mayor Pro-Tem Jill Auditori  
Councilmember Sean Ewing  
Councilmember Tim Bradley  
Councilmember Patty Philipps  
Councilmember Everette Greene

REAC Members Present:

Schenita Randolph  
Travis Albritton  
Daniel Velasquez  
Kiesha Bluford  
Tomeka Ward-Satterfield

City Staff Present:

City Manager Chris Rollins  
HR Director Beatrice Hunter

REAC Members Absent:

Tommy Jones

Mayor Hooks called the meeting to order. Mayor Hooks welcomed the committee members and thanked them for volunteering to serve on the REAC. He complimented all those that submitted, stating that they were a tremendous group.

Each person in attendance introduced themselves, shared professional accomplishments, personal information, and experiences. Many shared personal reasons and passions to serve on the committee and in the area of racial equity altogether.

Mayor Hooks gave an overview of the committee goals and objectives as defined by the Council. He stated that the goals and objectives are open-ended and can be revised and built upon as the committee sees fit. The committee expressed their desire to be of value to the community and the City Council, stating that as a Council subcommittee they feel it is important to have shared engagement and shared decision making.

There was a discussion about what access the committee will have to City information and resources. Mr. Rollins shared that the City is an open government and accessible, with the exception of personnel information and documents, as those are confidential per the North Carolina General Statutes. He assured the committee that the City staff and resources would be available as needed.

The committee requested that staff provide, at the next meeting, a demographic overview report of the City's information, community-wise and within the City of Mebane government-wise.

There was a discussion about setting a meeting schedule and the idea of holding a retreat. There was a consensus among the committee to meet more frequently for the next couple of meetings and then after the retreat, meeting every month. Mr. Rollins suggested that staff could prepare a brief "citizen academy" presentation for a future meeting, which would allow the committee to meet the department heads and to learn more about the city's departments and responsibilities. The Committee agreed that would be beneficial.

The committee also discussed the possibility of holding a Town Hall meeting and/or Listening Session as they want to ensure that they hear the voice of the community. Another idea discussed was to include the other applicants in a focus group which could help the committee better gauge items that need to be addressed .

After more discussion regarding holding a retreat and finding a retreat moderator, the next meeting was set for Tuesday, August 24th at 6:00 pm at the Mebane Arts and Community Center.

The meeting adjourned around 4:30 pm.