

STATE OF CONNECTICUT | SOCIAL EQUITY COUNCIL (DRAFT)

August 2, 2022, Meeting 10 A.M.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Call to order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Andréa Comer at 10:05 a.m.

Members present:

Corrie Betts, Andréa Comer, Avery Gaddis, Subira Gordon, Michael Jefferson, David Lehman, Ojala Naeem, Marc Pelka, Christine Shaw, Edwin Shirley, Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Marilyn Alverio, Kevin Walton

Council members absent:

Ramón Arroyo

SEC/DECD Staff present:

GINNE-RAE CLAY, SEC; JENNIFER EDWARDS, SEC; KOMLA MATREVI, SEC; KRISTINA DIAMOND, SEC; JENNIFER STEVENS, SEC; CRYSTAL MORRIS-CRENSHAW, SEC; KYLE ABERCROMBIE, DECD.

Chairwoman Comer welcomed the Council and the public. Chairwoman Comer stated the council would not have SE applications to be considered at this meeting. The council will consider a revised disproportionately impacted areas map in today's meeting. Chairwoman Comer reminded the council of its legislative responsibility to recertify the DIA map on an annual basis. Chairwoman Comer also informed the council that it would need to vote on logo recommendations forwarded by the Outreach Committee. In addition, Chairwoman Comer noted that a presentation would be made by the accelerator program operator finalist.

Chairwoman Comer informed the Council that she needed to leave the meeting and Councilwoman Naeem would take over as Chair.

Chairwoman Comer entertained a motion to approve minutes from the July 12th meeting.

Councilwoman Shaw requested clarifying edits to the meeting minutes.

Councilman Jefferson made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 12th meeting.

- Motion – Member Jefferson
- Second – Member Gaddis
- In Favor – All
- Opposed – None
- Abstention – None

Motion passed.

SEC Office Report Executive Director Ginne-Rae Clay

Executive Director Ginne-Rae Clay spoke of her work to add staff to the Social Equity Council and introduced Associate Accountant, Jennifer Stevens. Executive Director Clay provided the council with an update on the following:

- SEC in Media – interviews and Articles
- Accelerator program RFP
- SEC Regulations - published for 15-day public comment period
- Voted to hire CohnReznick to review workforce development plans
- Annual Recertification of the DIA Map

Discussion ensued.

Kristina Diamond briefly went over Public Act 21-1, and The Social Equity Council is responsible for annually recertifying the list of disproportionately impacted areas. The council's equity programs target these areas, including social equity licensing preference and community reinvestment efforts and processes. Patrick Hulin, OTG went over the recalculation and how the DBAs are calculated for the new DIA map.

Discussion ensued.

The Council decided to table the decision to recertify the map of the disproportionately impacted areas, to allow time for further research of the maps overall impact.

Committee Reports / Requests for Action

Finance Committee

Christine Shaw, Chairwoman

Chairwoman Shaw informed the Council that the Finance Committee will continue to track the budget and account information for the budget fiscal year 2022, which just ended on June 30th. Chairwoman Shaw noted the for past fiscal year personal services spending was on track with the budget amounts, and the available funds reflect some carryover funds. These unspent funds will be rolled over to fiscal 2023 and available for the technical assistance accelerator program. Chairwoman Shaw also noted the finance committee will be convening to review the recommendations for the fiscal 2024 biennial budget process, which will begin next year. The



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biennial budget is a brand-new budget as opposed to fiscal year 2023, that represents adjustments to what was approved for in 2022 and 2021.

Workforce Development Committee

Kelli-Marie Vallieres, Chairwoman

The Workforce Committee did not meet since a special session two weeks ago. No formal report presented.

Accelerator Ad Hoc Committee

Ojala Naeem, Chairwoman

Chairwoman Naeem provided an update on a process for determining the finalists for Accelerator Program operation. Dale Skye Jones and Sarah Bodley from Oaksterdam University and ReSet Social Enterprise Trust presented their proposal to the council. Discussion ensued.

Chairwoman Naeem ask for a motion to approve Oaksterdam University and ReSet Social Enterprise Trust as the Accelerator Operator

Councilman Gaddis made a motion to approve the proposal recommended by the Accelerator Ad Hoc Committee.

- Move – Avery Gaddis
- Second – Kyle Abercrombie
- In Favor – All
- Opposed – None
- Abstention – None

Motion passed.

Outreach Committee

**Marilyn Alverio, Co-Chairwoman
/ Subira Gordon, Co-Chairwoman**

The Outreach Committee met on August 1st to discuss the communication/marketing strategy, and the timing of how communications will be disseminated. SEC staff will continue working with Camelo communications to develop the SEC brand, including redesigning the website with the SEC logo and establishing social media platforms. The outreach committee expects to review the proposed marketing and communication strategy at our next committee meeting.

Co-Chairwoman Marilyn Alverio entertains a motion for the outreach committee to pick the logo due to time retrains of the council meeting.

- Move - Avery Gaddis
- Second – by Kyle Abercrombie
- In Favor – All
- Opposed – None

- Abstention – None

Motion passed.

Policy Committee Edwin Shirley, Chairman

The Policy Committee discussed the \$50 million authorized loan program, the Social Equity Council will partner with the DECD to create and administer the funds. The funds will be authorized to make term loans, capital improvement loans, and working capital lines of credit. Chairman Shirley also discussed the legislative recommendations for submission on October 1, 2022. The committee will continue this discussion.

Chairwoman Ojala Naeem - In the good of the order?

Councilwoman Shaw reports that the Council has been advised of pending litigation. Council member Shaw questioned if there would be an executive session with council members to discuss those matters. Discussion ensued.

Chairwoman Ojala Naeem, asked for any further questions or points for the good of the order.

Councilman Gaddis made motion to adjourn.

- Second by Council member Alverio

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 pm.

Minutes are a draft until approved at a subsequent meeting.