

	A regular work session of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, June 25, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo.
Roll Call	COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell Vice Mayor Erin Knott David Anderson Don Cooney Eric Cunningham Jack Urban COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Shannon Sykes
	Also present were Deputy City Manager Patsy Moore, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.
Commissioners Excused	Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Cunningham, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Sykes. With a voice vote the motion passed.
Presentation and Discussion re: Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo	Assistant City Manager Laura Lam provided introductory remarks and reviewed the agenda and desired meeting outcomes. Assistant City Manager Laura Lam, Chuck Vliek from the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Community Investment Manager Dorla Bonner, and Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK) Coordinator Kevin Ford delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled <i>Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo: City Commission Work Session, June 25, 2018</i>. A copy of this presentation was filed with the papers for this meeting. Mr. Vliek provided an overview of projects that were part of the Kalamazoo Affordable Housing Initiative (KAHI). In response to a question from Commissioner Cooney, Mr. Vliek explained the Hollander Development was a mixed use, affordable housing project proposed for the former Kalamazoo Creamery site at the corner of Portage and Lake Streets. In response to a question from Mayor Hopewell, Mr. Vliek stated the Washington Square rehab project would include both businesses coming into the neighborhood and businesses started by neighborhood residents. Mr. Vliek explained the Financial Opportunity Center was an intensive workforce training program that included a proved combination of financial literacy, benefit maximization, and workforce training. In response to a question from Vice Mayor Knott, Mr. Vliek stated he was not concerned about state tax credits, as these projects were economic development projects funded by LISC. In response to a question from Commissioner Anderson, Assistant City Manager Lam stated the City's part of incremental/in-fill development was to streamline development processes and the zoning code to make development easier and less costly.

Community Investment Manager Bonner and Assistant City Manager Lam discussed the issue of diversity and fair housing and described planned initiatives for data collection and analysis. Community Investment Manager Bonner discussed the status of the Mixed-Use Incubator and stated Phase 1 was complete, and Phase 2 was in progress.

In response to a question from Mayor Hopewell, Neighborhood Business and Special Projects Coordinator Dwayne Powell explained the initial idea for an incubator would be a set of on-line tools that people could access, but it could eventually be a physical space for co-working and networking. Coordinator Powell stated the targets for this program were job creation, addressing equity issues, and empowering people of color. Coordinator Powell reported a consultant was hired to engage community, determine what services were needed, and advise on the location of the incubator.

Assistant City Manager Lam discussed how the Dr. Light Grant would be used for best practice research and a data management system. Assistant City Manager Lam stated the data management system would set up by the end of the year, and site visits would start in August. Assistant City Manager Lam reported Dr. Light continued to be very much involved in the project, and there was a core group of people and a review committee who were working to create a data-sharing initiative.

In response to a question from Mayor Hopewell, Assistant City Manager Lam stated Dr. Light's motivation for funding this initiative was an interest in using data to identify community problems, find the right solutions for those problems, and then track progress.

Community Investment Manager Bonner reviewed the City's community engagement efforts and provided an update on the development of Neighborhood Plans.

Assistant City Manager Lam and Commissioner Cooney reviewed the City's Returnee Coordination efforts. Commissioner Cooney explained differences in opportunities for people returning from prison and people returning from jail.

Mayor Hopewell noted the City used to be able to get significant information from the state regarding people returning from incarceration, but that information flow had stopped. Mayor Hopewell reported he had contacted the state about this but had not received a good answer. Mayor Hopewell stated every county needed to have good information on returnees, and they needed to network and raise the level of discussion about this issue.

Commissioner Urban suggested the problem was not the prison system but the politics of community image relative to returnees.

In response to a question from Commission Cunningham, Commissioner Cooney stated information about returnees came from the prisons. Commissioner Cooney explained a person who had finished their sentence was "off-paper," and there were no resources for them, but if a person was on parole there were services.

Presentation and
Discussion re: Shared
Prosperity Kalamazoo
(cont'd)

Presentation and
Discussion re: Shared
Prosperity Kalamazoo
(cont'd)

Foundation for Excellence (FFE) Coordinator Steve Brown discussed the Youth Mobility Fund, which would eliminate fares for young people, invest in new bus shelters, and expand driver training programs. Coordinator Brown stated the larger purpose of the fund was to support jobs and education for youth.

Mayor Hopewell noted the SPK Steering Committee wanted to create both incentive and opportunity for young people to get their driver's licenses.

Assistant City Manager Lam discussed the development of the Youth Master Plan.

SPK Coordinator Kevin Ford reviewed the SPK structure, described the role of the SPK Organizing Committee, and presented the recommended slate of appointees to the Committee. Coordinator Ford discussed the importance of focusing on place and talked about the design and implementation of Place-Based Pilot projects in the Eastside, Edison, and Northside Neighborhoods. Coordinator Ford highlighted the need to build capacity at the neighborhood level and engage residents regarding needs and solutions. Coordinator Ford indicated the goal of capacity building was to establish a strong pipeline for new, emerging leaders. Coordinator Ford reviewed the next steps in the SPK process.

Mayor explained the SPK timeline did not contain every detail and stated SPK would not always involve the creation of new programs. Mayor Hopewell noted the City Commission had CC approved the SPK Plan on March 5th, and the Organizing Committee was a part of the Plan. In response to a question from Commissioner Anderson, Mayor Hopewell indicated the SPK process would result in budget requests for 2019.

Appointment of SPK
Organizing Committee
Members

Commissioner Urban, seconded by Commissioner Anderson, moved to approve the following representatives to the Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo Organizing Committee:

Don Cooney, Commissioner, The Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations

Ben Damerow, Michigan Works! Southwest

Patrese Griffin, Northside Neighborhood Representative

Bobby Hopewell, Mayor of the City of Kalamazoo

Brenda Hughes, Eastside Neighborhood Representative

Cyekeia Lee, The Kalamazoo Promise

Sholanna Lewis, Kalamazoo Community Foundation

Matthew Lynn, United Way of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region

Carol McGlenn, Kalamazoo Public School Board

Timothy Ready, The Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations

Linda Snyder, Goodwill Industries, Edison Neighborhood Representative

With a roll call vote this motion passed.

AYES, Commissioners: Anderson, Cooney, Cunningham, Urban,
Vice Mayor Knott, Mayor Hopewell

NAYS, Commissioners: None

Commissioners Cunningham and Anderson described their jobs with the Michigan Department of Community Health and Kalamazoo Community Mental Health, respectively, and the work each of these agencies were doing relative to SPK.

Next, an opportunity was given for general citizen comments, but no comments were offered.

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments of City Commissioners.

Commissioner Cooney remarked on a study entitled *Restoring the American Dream* by the Gates Foundation. Commissioner Cooney stated economic success was not enough; it was important for people to feel like they were valued in their communities.

Commissioner Urban remarked that the work described during the meeting sounded like the idea of "building community". Commissioner Urban expressed excitement and observed there was a lot of potential the City had not yet tapped.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on August 20, 2018

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: August 20, 2018

Appointment of SPK
Organizing Committee
Members (cont'd)

Citizen Comments

Commissioner Comments

Adjournment