



Agenda Work Session of the City Commission

City of Kalamazoo

Monday, June 25, 2018

6:00 PM

Community Room at City Hall - 241 W South Street

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

B. COMMUNICATIONS

C. DISCUSSION TOPICS/ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of 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

D. CITIZEN COMMENTS

E. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS AND CONCERNS BY COMMISSIONERS

F. ADJOURNMENT



Commission Agenda Report

City of Kalamazoo

TO: Mayor Hopewell, Vice Mayor Knott, and City Commissioners

FROM: James K. Ritsema, ICMA-CM, City Manager

REVIEWED BY: Laura Lam, Assistant City Manager

PREPARED BY: Kevin Ford, Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo Coordinator

DATE: 6/21/2018

SUBJECT: Approve Candidates for the Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo Organizing Committee

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Commission approve the following slate of eleven (11) representatives for the Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK) Organizing Committee.

Candidates:

1. Don Cooney, Commissioner, The Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations
2. Ben Damerow, Michigan Works! Southwest,
3. Patrese Griffin, Northside Neighborhood Representative
4. Bobby Hopewell, Mayor of the City of Kalamazoo
5. Brenda Hughes, Eastside Neighborhood Representative
6. Cykeia Lee, The Kalamazoo Promise
7. Sholanna Lewis, Kalamazoo Community Foundation
8. Matthew Lynn, United Way of Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region
9. Carol McGlinn, Kalamazoo Public School Board
10. Timothy Ready, The Lewis Walker Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnic Relations
11. Linda Snyder, Goodwill Industries, Edison Neighborhood Representative

BACKGROUND

Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo (SPK) is an initiative that originated with the Kalamazoo City Commission's decision in February 2014 to make poverty reduction a key priority for the city. Under the leadership of Mayor Bobby Hopewell and the City Commission, Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo was established to place emphasis on what we want to achieve—more broadly shared prosperity, not just the alleviation of poverty. In an attempt to realize this objective, SPK identified three distinct but interrelated goals to carry out its work: 1) increase access to good jobs; 2) ensure the healthy growth, development, and learning of all our youth; and 3) create strong families.

As part of the SPK initiative the City sought to engage a consultant to provide technical assistance in establishing an action plan and an ongoing coalition structure recommendation.

The consultant-led planning process took place over a four-month period in fall 2017 to shape a collaborative vision for SPK and create a prioritized action plan of initiatives for the City and its SPK partners to explore. This process yielded a subsequent action plan that was unanimously approved by City Commissioners in March 2018.

The 2018 SPK Action Plan lays out an ongoing coalition governance structure consisting of an Organizing Committee and Goal Teams that will concentrate efforts on the three primary SPK focus areas—children and youth, jobs, and families. The primary responsibility of the Organizing Committee will be to convene stakeholders for conversations and accountability around SPK recommendations and core principles. In addition, SPK Organizing Committee members will track and encourage progress on SPK strategies as well as lead conversations about the deeper systemic changes that are needed to shift conditions for families and the community. The Organizing Committee will be supported by the City SPK staff team.

ALTERNATIVES

It is recommended the City Commission approve the 2018 Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo Organizing Committee candidates as it is consistent with the approved 2018 SPK Action Plan. Denying the SPK Organizing Committee candidates would considerably delay city efforts to advance the implementation of the SPK Action Plan. This alternative is not recommended.