



## Joint Commission on Racial Justice and Equity Information Technology Sub-Committee



### AGENDA

June 15, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

Lincoln Room

Peoria Public Library – North Branch  
1312 W. Lincoln Ave., Peoria, IL 61605

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Approval of Minutes**
  - April 13 and May 11
3. **Informational Items and Reports**
  - Report-out from Co-Chairs meeting with Steering Committee
    - New Liaison to our committee – Heather McMeekan
    - Information re: OMA meeting requirements post Covid emergency declaration
  - Info from Illinois Office of Broadband listening sessions
  - Info from meeting with Kiersten Sheets (Peoria Farm Bureau)
4. **Discussion**
  - Meeting times (7 people responded/Library was unanimous choice, with ICC and St. James Episcopal Church both mentioned)
  - Small group formation
5. **Recommendations to the Steering Committee**
6. **New Business**
  - Project Waves – Baltimore, MD
7. **Adjournment**



## Joint Commission on Racial Justice and Equity



### Information and Technology Sub-Committee

#### MINUTES

Thursday, April 13, 2023

5:30pm – Via Zoom

#### Members Present:

X Dan McCloud	X Lisa Marie Schultz, Co-Chair
X Theresa Koehler	X Sunny Pearson
X Jamiel Shelton (joined 5:50)	X Jessica McKean (joined 5:50)

Also present: Zayn Hashmi – Data Analyst, ICC Cradle to Career

#### **1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 5:41 pm by Lisamarie Schultz

#### **2. Approval of Minutes**

April 2023 minutes were approved at end of meeting, once we had a quorum

#### **3. Informational Items and Reports**

#### **4. Discussion**

LM – Discuss Springfield, IL Digital Equity Plan to see if there are things we can take from their work. Kathie Brown suggested they might speak to our subcommittee regarding outreach. LM will reach out to them.

DM – Has ICC reached out on grants for IT Accelerate/Good Jobs Grant

TK – Can provide status update for next meeting. David Bess is in charge of that.

DM – felt methods of outreach from Springfield would be helpful, TK agreed.

LM – Would any survey questions from the GPEDC's BB survey of August 2022 be useful in shaping some of our questions for the Steering Committee?

DM – Those folks have more knowledge of issues. Keep us from repeating work that's been done prior.  
LM – Reiterated that these are questions to be asked of public in upcoming Listening Sessions to get qualitative info from the community about their lives/issues/needs, across all of Peoria County/City of Peoria.

LM – can we be more involved in the Illinois Office of Broadband listening sessions?

DM – need to stay in tune with what's going on – designate people to be at each meeting.  
Suggested calendar set up for Important events.

Zayn H – Asked about building out a survey or what phase we're at in terms of timeline.

DM & LM – we've collected quantitative data we now need qualitative.

SP – Qualitative data will always make most effective persuasive impact.

GPEDC's survey wasn't representative – only 1300 homes surveyed.

ZH – only 400-600 individuals

SP – virtual/digital survey and paper exit survey to use at various meetings with public are necessary.

DM – need to find out what limitations/barriers were to survey. Use survey as resource for ideas/ask open ended questions.

JM – In Meeting with City, learned they are applying for a multi-million dollar grant to put fiber in 61605

TK – I3 applying for grant money

JM—they'll have to match part of it – Will invite Joe Dulin, City of Peoria Community Development Director, to our next meeting. City helping I3 write grant. Unused ARPA funds from Covid may be used.

LM – need to discuss in-person/hybrid/zoom meetings in future. Benefits to meeting in person

SP – add location question to survey for days/times, etc.

LM – grant questions sent to Melodi Green and Andre Allen. If we can get grants what should we look to do?

PC's for People/Directory of those in Peoria & Illinois working on BB & DE issues/

SP – build out trusted partners spreadsheet / see what trusted partners are working on.

JS – Comcast Cares Day – rehab areas/add broadband/donate computers. Comcast might be partner to provide to community centers, etc.

DM – Reach out to partners at areas it would be helpful.

LM – PC's for People need Financial Partner (maybe Corporate entity)

JS – Goodwill training classes. Create pamphlets/brochures to distribute lists of resources. Set up tables.

SP – meet with smaller agencies and develop outreach in this niche area

TK – to get computers from PC4P, they need to be signed up for ACP prior.

## **7. Adjournment**

Adjourned meeting at 6:41 pm



## Joint Commission on Racial Justice and Equity



### Information and Technology Sub-Committee

#### MINUTES

Thursday, May 11, 2023 @ 5:30pm  
Via Zoom

#### Members Present:

Shawn Johnson	X Jenny Replogle
X Theresa Koehler	X Lisa Marie Schultz, Co-Chair
Dan McCloud – Co Chair	X Jamiel Shelton (5:41 joined)
Jessica McKean	X Datikka Wright (5:44 joined)
X Sunny Pearson	

Also present: Andre Allen – Peoria County  
Zayn Hashmi – ICC

#### 1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Lisamarie Schultz

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

#### 3. Informational Items and Reports

Discussed grant writing possibilities/funding request legalities. Question went to the City and answer should come through within next couple of weeks.

#### 4. Discussion

- Talked about meeting locations/possibility of hybrid meetings in wake of lifting Covid Emergency Declaration. Andre said City/County investigating meeting requirements.

- Lincoln Library is only library open during our meeting times, St. Paul's Episcopal on North Street off War Memorial. Is meeting time convenient for people? Jamiel is working 2-10:30 M-F
- Andre needs to be at County Board meeting which conflicts with this, but colleague may cover
- Talked about Illinois Office of Broadband Listening Sessions – Theresa and Jenny were on meeting.
- Galesburg seems to have similar issues to us. Facilitators didn't realize there were entire zip codes that lack highspeed broadband. Interactive maps were helpful – link in chat. Talked about barriers – enough devices, knowledge, how to use it, challenge of accessing telehealth
- LM – lack of any broadband in rural areas of county, terrible internet/terrible test scores for Pleasant Valley School. Challenge for both rural and city getting broadband from the street to the dwelling. Will talk to Farm Bureau Chair of Committee looking at Broadband.
- Illinois Office of Broadband Listening Sessions were prep for funding disbursements/needs
- Workforce Accelerator at ICC – creating larger pool of IT workers
- SP – Goodwill has program to do at own pace, designed by Meta for certification in Social Media Marketing 100% free, can't get anyone to enroll – similar to the Caterpillar Foundation training in IT. Money is available for training –why are people not being reached?
- SP – people are working 2 part time jobs or full-time plus part-time job – don't have time to work on education.
- LM – ICC & OSF are doing more apprenticeships – is that a way to replace one of the part-time jobs?
- Andre Allen left meeting 6:11pm
- Sunny spoke about trying to reach out to high schools about programs and not getting buy-in
- Zayn – Cradle to Career -- ICC survey finalized, Beta surveys done within team, community outreach at afterschool events but hard to get responses. Put together plan to reach out to reps at schools/community partners to combine resources to have people respond to surveys. Education side is main focus, but workforce & internet are included in survey.
- Map on IL Broadband inaccurate -- show service (LT & 5G) where we know there is none
- How do we share info about lack of accuracy with orgs that are going to provide dollars for BB installation?
- Steering Committee listening sessions/forums are looking for first-person stories about how Broadband affects their lives.
- Any interest in forming small groups?
- SP talked about last PC's for People event. Trouble with ACP registration, which ran counter to instructions on flyers which had been distributed; people gave up. Wifi hotspots didn't come to event as promised, event started 3 hours late. Wrap Around Center did their best to help. Love concept/hate execution
- Will Tikka reach out to Dell regarding donation of items, need for documentation, etc.
- We need to know who's doing what and who's doing it well regarding IT

- Datikka asked about PC's for People management & concerns. SP – staff is Chicago based, disconnected from our community. Consultant suggested we reach out to East Bluff Center.
- Jenny – are we gathering info or actually trying to do things related to IT Justice & Equity
- LM – our charter is to gather info and make recommendations to Mayor & County Board, but if there are areas we can help and we can access grants (per lawyers at City & County) we need to look into that. We won't be financing, but we need to make connections based on deeper knowledge of how things are in the community
- Datikka Wright left meeting at 6:50
- JS – spoke to Comcast Cares Community Days
- Are there ways to connect Comcast with trusted partners in need
- Jamiel – brochures about where to get services. We need to know who's working on these issues in City and County and what their reputations are in community
- SP – Our subcommittee is constantly growing, moving field -- it grows so fast. Between Christmas and now, AI interface use at drive-throughs, navigating non-profit through Chat GPT
- JS – would Workforce be a resource?
- SP – can we do townhall with agencies/orgs that are working in this area, and make them aware of us? JS – can we do public outreach lunch that helps give out info.
- Can we provide additional info to people who attend our listening sessions. We don't have time to put together resource book by this summer. HOPE Network group email – send email to group with needs of client, etc.
- Jenny left meeting at 6:52
- Give ideas about possible ideas for small groups over next weeks
- ZH – What is methodology for marketing to groups? LM – we'll need to discuss that further
- SP – Goodwill did primary Social Media ads -- targeted boosted ads within Zipcodes they were trying to reach, had zero response with FB boosted. Did Linked IN, Instagram but no trad media. Marketing Director doesn't believe in investing in media marketing local services.

## **5. Recommendations to the Steering Committee**

## **6. New Business**

Next Meeting July 13, 2023

## **7. Adjournment**

Adjourned meeting at 6:54 pm