

Minutes--Equity Subcommittee 12/21/20

1:00-3:22pm

In attendance: Evelyn Gomez (chair), Tara Donner (secretary), Janice Darias, Mike McAllister, John Phelan, Tony DiCologero

From the Public: Joe Bernard

Agenda

Equity Audit Update

Mike McAllister update:

- Presented info to BECA
 - They would like to interview two of the groups before a selection is made
 - [Amy Checkoway](#) question: who will make the final decision?
 - School department with input from others
- Pricing
 - A la carte?
 - Depending on the cost may need to develop an RFP
- What will the audit consist of? (see document “EquityAudit a la carte options” presented)

Tony DiCologero:

- How procurement process works (chart shared)
 - If under \$10,000, \$10,001-\$50k, or over \$50,000 have different rules
 - For \$10-50k, need to develop a scope of service, solicit at least 3 bids, choose lowest “responsible bidder,” have a written contract
 - For over \$50k, have sealed bids, posting/advertising requirements, rules for how to rank bids and award to lowest responsible bidder (need more detailed specifications to inform the rubric for rating the proposal)
 - Tara Donner question: do the \$ amount requirements apply to the length of the whole contract or year by year?
 - Tony: to the whole contract

General questions/comments:

- Amy: what is the “time pressure” that Mike McAllister referred to earlier?
 - Desire to make forward progress but also to do a good job on each step of the process; no specific deadline
- Tara:
 - What is the sense of what BECA feels about a multi-year approach vs. a quicker audit?
- Mike McAllister:
 - We may want to break up the offerings in an “a la carte” way to bring the price down and to optimize getting the services we want

Next steps on equity audit:

- Collect information from school department, BECA, equity subcommittee about what we want in the proposal

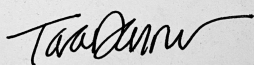
- BECA interviews of group on Jan 4-5
- Mike will put together a survey to gather input on what we want in the proposal

Update on reaching out to community groups:

- Do we want to write a letter to introduce ourselves to community groups and invite them to meetings?
- Some kind of systematic outreach to community groups necessary
 - BAR, METCO, BECA, Human Rights Commission, ELE, SEPAC
 - Sharing hopes/dreams/etc of what we want, develop shared understanding of what this work is
- Tara has connected with BAR, but more follow up is necessary
- Meet with group representatives individually, invite them to one of our meetings, or send representatives to their group meetings?
- Organize a meeting to introduce our subcommittee to the community groups
 - Possible agenda: have each group introduce themselves and how they operate/what they focus on/what they'd like to do
 - Get information out in early January and have this meeting in mid January?
 - Evelyn will draft and send to me/Amy for feedback
 - Also do a press release for local media (Joanna/Franklin)
 - Who we are, what our goals are, when we started, what we are planning to do
 - General (no specific meeting date), put out in January (give them a week before we want it published)
 - Individually contact BAR, METCO Parent Advisory group via Rosa, BECA via John Sullivan and Denise LaPolla, Human Rights Commission via Sarah Bilodeau, ELE via Lindsay Rinder, and SEPAC via Tim Flood, BHS and Chenery Student groups?
- Evelyn--topic for future discussion of intersection between special education services and race/equity
 - Reach out to groups like ELE and SEPAC to ask questions about how can we partner with them on racial equity issues

Meeting adjourned at 3:21pm

Respectfully submitted,



Tara Donner