

# Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee Meeting Record

The Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee meetings are recorded.  
Agenda materials are available online at [www.dallascityhall.com](http://www.dallascityhall.com). Recordings may be reviewed online at <https://dallastx.swagit.com/city-council>  
Note: This meeting was conducted via teleconference to comply with a social distancing mandate during a declared state of disaster.

**Meeting Date:** January 11, 2021

**Convened:** 9:00 a.m.

**Adjourned:** 10:54 a.m.

**Committee Members Present:**

CM Casey Thomas, II Chair  
CM Jaime Resendez, Vice Chair  
MPT Adam Medrano  
CM Lee Kleinman  
CM Paula Blackmon

**Committee Members Absent:**

N/A

**Other Council Members Present:**

## **AGENDA**

Call to Order (9:00 a.m.)

**1. Approval of the December 14, 2020 Workforce, Education and Equity Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** A motion was made to approve the minutes for the December 14, 2020 Workforce, Education and Equity Committee meeting minutes. The motion passed.

Motion made by: MPT Adam Medrano

Motion seconded by: Vice Chair Jaime Resendez

## **BRIEFING ITEM WITH ACTION**

**2. Workforce: Approval of an Amendment to the Dallas City Code to Create a Veterans Affairs Commission**

**Presenters:** Chair Casey Thomas, II

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** A motion was made to recommend the draft ordinance to the City Council for approval with the following revision in Sec. 2-170 subsection (c): "...and at least four members must be currently serving or have previously served in the United States military (including the Reserves or National Guard)." The motion passed.

Motion made by: Vice Chair Jaime Resendez

Motion seconded by: MPT Adam Medrano

## **BRIEFING ITEMS WITHOUT ACTION**

**A. Workforce: South Dallas Employment Project**

**Presenters:** Zarin Gracey, Assistant Director, Office of Economic Development; Wes Jurey, Founder and Executive Director, Redemption Bridge

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Assistant Director Gracey and Mr. Jurey provided an overview of the South Dallas Employment Project, established by Redemption Bridge and the State Fair of Texas, which seeks to develop and implement a strategic approach to support individuals returning to or living in South Dallas in five identified zip codes: 75210, 75215, 75216, 75217, and 75228. The South Dallas Employment Project will brings businesses, educational institutions, workforce agencies, and nonprofits together to provide citizens with nationally recognized certifications and wrap-around services and focuses on living wage employment, housing, transportation, digital access, public policy, health, wellness, and recovery, and community connectivity. Committee members asked questions about the City's role in the project, the living wage employment focus, and which zip codes certain pilot projects will target. Chair Thomas requested that Assistant Director Gracey and Mr. Jurey provide quarterly updates on the project to the Workforce, Education and Equity Committee. Information only.

**B. Workforce: Financial Empowerment Centers - Pilot Programming Update**

**Presenters:** Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Director Galleshaw provided an overview of Financial Empowerment Centers planning and implementation strategy, highlighted partnership opportunities, and solicited input from Workforce, Education and Equity Committee members on planned strategy and procurement. Committee members asked questions about the process to partner with non-profit organizations, the procurement process and procurement rules, and the rubric to grade proposals. Information only.

**C. Equity: Drivers of Poverty Projects Update**

**Presenters:** Jessica Galleshaw, Director, Office of Community Care

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Director Galleshaw provided an overview of the Drivers of Poverty project and work to date and updates on current project partner programs and planning for FY21 implementation. Vice Chair Resendez requested that staff focus on limited English proficient individuals. Chair Thomas asked questions about how Dallas ranks nationally in terms of poverty level, the community partners the Office of Community Care has worked with, outreach to partners, and status updates on programs related to the Dallas Resilience Strategy goals. Information only.

**D. Equity: Update on Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE) Innovation and Implementation Grant to the Office of Arts and Culture**

**Presenters:** Jennifer Scripps, Director, Office of Arts and Culture

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):** Chair Thomas provided brief comments regarding the briefing memorandum. Information only.

Adjourn (10:54 a.m.)

**APPROVED BY:**

**ATTESTED BY:**

---

Casey Thomas, Chair  
Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee

---

Sommer Iqbal, Coordinator  
Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee