

Date: August 22, 2024

Time: 4pm – 6pm

Location: City Hall – Hearing Room 2

Attendees:

- **Commissioners:**
 - Bernadette Zermeño
 - Edgar Rodriguez-Ramirez
 - Jessica Jung (D-2)
 - Kym Johnson (D-4)
 - Priya Jagannathan
 - Rickey Jackson (D-3)
- **Staff:**
 - Jennifer Cabán
 - Nayeli Bernal
- **Other Participants:**
 - American Institutes of Research
 - Gabriele Fain

Agenda items:

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Roll Call**
 - Meeting called to order at 4:15pm.
- 3. Review of Agenda**
 - Agenda amended and affirmed to move up the following items from the original agenda: Other Commission Business, Kith Connections Community Event Planning and Discussion, and American Institutes for Research Next Steps, followed by the Retreat Debrief item. Commissioner Zermeño motioned; Commissioner Johnson seconded. Motion unanimously approved.
- 4. Open Forum (Non-Agendized Items)**
 - No public comments.
- 5. Other Commission Business – Review Upcoming Topics; Reschedule of Nov/Dec Meetings; Co-Chair Required**
 - November and December Commission meetings need to be rescheduled to accommodate holiday closures. The Commission agreed to adjust schedule to host a combined November/December Commission meeting on Thursday

December 5th at 4-6pm. Commissioner Zermeño motioned; Commissioner Rodriguez-Ramirez seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

- Commission discussed a draft outline of upcoming monthly meeting topics as follows:
 - September 26th: RBA presentations (confirmed).
 - October 24th: Fiscal Year 24-25 investments; Implementation Partners' updated data elements; evaluation update.
 - December 5th: Presenting program plans; Kith connections updates.

6. Kith Connections Community Event Planning and Discussion

- Kith Connections will be the first Oakland Children's Initiative event. The goals of the event are to (1) help attendees connect to the overall vision of the Initiative and see themselves reflected in the work, and (2) build relationships and connections with subcontractors and community partners.
- Commission discussed hopes for the event. Recommendations include: learn about subcontractors' aspirations for the next couple of years; help subcontractors connect to the vision, mission, and language of the initiative; keep the event low-stress and interactive via activities like a gallery walk, tri-folds, or sticky notes that show appreciation and are celebratory; promote connections amongst subcontractors; include children's performances or awards.
- Commission confirmed November 14th at 4-6pm as the best date and time for the event. The event is anticipated to have an attendance of about 75-80 attendees. This allows for at least 2 members from each community partner/subcontractor. Staff will follow-up on planning for the event.

7. Evaluation Partner – American Institutes for Research Next Steps

- Gabriele Fain shared evaluation updates with the Commission regarding contracting being nearly executed; categories of overarching research questions that evaluation will cover, including implementation, cost/use of funds, and big picture impact; sub-studies that will be conducted as part of the evaluation, including a collective impact study design, a process study on implementation, and an economic impact study; and the approach of leverage RBA measures and ongoing community engagement.
- Commissioners discussed the connection between RBA measures (annual, day-to-day) and evaluation (longer-term); the importance of grounding the study in the local context through informal conversations in the next few weeks; aspirations for the evaluation to uplift the key strengths of the Initiative, such as collaboration and coordination of services; and areas to be mindful about including avoiding being extractive and grounding community members as experts.
- Next steps include outreach to key stakeholders to setup interviews. Commission will be outreached to in the next few days.

8. Retreat Debrief

- Commissioners debriefed on the July 27th Commission retreat as being well-organized and having the right balance between presentations and community-building activities.
- The Commission also reviewed the draft Community Agreements developed during the retreat and provided feedback to refine, present, and vote on them at the October Commission meeting. Recommendations about integration of these agreements included opening and ending meetings with the agreements, adding them to agendas, creating a checklist for reflection after meetings, and integrating them as part of icebreakers.
- Commissioners also reviewed a list of values and documented their top five them using an online tool called Mentimeter. Once all Commissioners have done so, the group will review a list of emerging shared values, prioritize/rank order, and narrow down a list of Commission shared values to guide future work. Outreach will be done to any Commissioners who were not in attendance.

9. Wrap-Up and Next Steps – call for agenda topics for next meeting

- Commissioners discussed the need, per the bylaws, for a second Co-Chair in addition to Commissioner Jackson. Other updates included the upcoming financial audit for Initiative and the development of glossary document with shared language. Commissioners also suggested sharing a list of partner organizations for the fiscal year. Other topics to cover at future meetings, as suggested by Commissioners, included updates and presentations of different segments of the Initiative (ECE, College Access, etc.); different modalities of ECE; impact of literacy on children of different ages; impacts of Transitional Kindergarten expansion in Oakland Unified School District; opportunities to highlight services such as the Oakland Promise college savings account; uplifting a child's journey in Oakland from cradle to career; education around issues or needs that need to be met (example: McKinney Vento); vision for the five year guidelines and scaffolding; process of Implementation Partner selection in subcontracting.
- Meeting adjourned at 6:10pm