

SYSTEMIC RACISM REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES - DRAFT

July 30, 2024 at 12:00 PM

Zoom Webinar



<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/92303909454> or: 1-253-215-8782 Webinar ID: 923 0390 9454

A. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Froehlich called the Systemic Racism Review Committee to order at 12:11 p.m. via Zoom.

B. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** – read by Chair Froehlich

We would like to acknowledge that the City and Borough of Juneau is on Tlingit land and wish to honor the indigenous people of this land. For more than ten thousand years, Alaska Native people have been and continue to be integral to the well-being of our community. We are grateful to be in this place, a part of this community, and to honor the culture, traditions, and resilience of the Tlingit people. *Gunalchéesh!*

C. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Ephraim Froehlich, AnaVera Morato, Ivan Nance, Kelli Patterson, and Jennifer Pemberton

Absent: John Drips

Staff/Others: Robert Barr, Di Cathcart, Nicole Lynch

D. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – agenda approved as presented.

E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – minutes approved as presented.

1. **May 14, 2024 SRRC Minutes - Draft**

F. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS** - None

G. **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following ordinances were up for introduction on the consent agenda at Monday night's Regular Assembly Meeting. A blank SRRC checklist is included in the packet if an ordinance is pulled for further discussion and committee members want to utilize that tool.

Recommended Motions:

"I move to approve the consent agenda as presented and ask for unanimous consent" OR "I move to approve the consent agenda as amended and ask for unanimous consent": [use this motion when items are pulled off consent for further discussion]

2. **Legislation for Review by SRRC**

[Ordinance 2024-27](#) An Ordinance Authorizing the Manager to Execute a Lease of the Mayflower Building and Grounds to the Juneau Montessori Center, an Alaska Non-Profit Corporation. [Exhibit A - Mayflower Lease](#)

Mr. Barr read Ordinance 2024-27 into the record, noting this facility has been used by Juneau Montessori Center for quite a long time. Chair Froehlich asked how far below market value it is. Mr. Barr stated fair market value is at \$3,200/per month and the lease agreement is for \$2,200/per month, it has been leasing for below fair market value for some time. The committee had additional questions, so it was recommended to pull the ordinance from the consent agenda for further discussion.

MOTION: Ms. Pemberton moved to pull Ordinance 2024-27 for further discussion and asked for unanimous consent. *Hearing no objection, motion passed.*

H. LEGISLATION PULLED FOR DISCUSSION

Legislation pulled from the consent agenda during the meeting for further discussion, questions or to walk through the SRRC checklist on a particular piece of legislation.

Sample Motions:

"I move to forward Ordinance xxxx-xx (or Resolution xxxx) to the full Assembly as presented and ask for unanimous consent" OR "I move the SRRC recommend to the Assembly it {fill in the recommendation} prior to taking action on proposed legislation."

Mr. Nance asked why the SRRC is reviewing a financial analysis; wasn't this provided to the Assembly for review. Mr. Barr responded that the Assembly did get this information in their packet for review, so they are aware of the appraised market value as well as the proposed below market lease amount. It is the Assembly's role to make that public policy about whether there is enough of a public purpose in the Juneau Montessori School getting that added value. The Assembly must decide if it's enough of a benefit to the community for Montessori to have that discount which they would presumably pass those savings on to their students and parents.

Ms. Morato asked if the city is aware if Juneau Montessori School (JMS) is providing this discount to parents through a lottery system or what their protocols are.

Mr. Barr stated that in order for CBJ to consider leases at below fair market value, an organization needs to be non-profit, and that is the main basis CBJ is looking at; not aware of any dive that CBJ staff has done to make determinations on cost and pricing for JMS.

Chair Froehlich stated that he went to JMS as a child and was unaware of its cultural history until later. It is an expensive school to go to in Juneau for Pre-K and Kindergarten and in the years that his children went there one thing that stood out was there were no native children in either of his children's classes. This location has a history that is painful for our native community.

Ms. Pemberton commented that we need to differentiate the building from JMS. For the purposes of the discounted rent that JMS gets to use that building, Mr. Barr laid out the benchmarks for getting the discounted rate. Systemically there are problems that led to that building becoming property of the city. The SRRC could make a note of it if we want to that JMS is being offered a discount and that discount should be passed on to its students; that said, I don't think it's up to us to tell JMS to do better. Perhaps CBJ should rethink the process of who they give discounts to and why.

Chair Froehlich agreed that the ordinance before the SRRC doesn't pertain to the concerns brought forward by the committee today regarding the school doing more to acknowledge, encourage and incentivize, perhaps through discounts, the local indigenous community to apply and be a part of JMS and I would like it on record to tell JMS to do better. I don't think there's anything systemically racist for CBJ to negotiate a below fair market value lease to a non-profit school.

Ms. Morato stated that having this discussion in committee is important. Juneau Montessori School is very expensive and out of reach of some. When CBJ is looking at other organizations to be in partnership with or offer discounts it's important to make sure they are considering accessibility and affordability to those services for historically marginalized communities.

MOTION: by Ms. Pemberton to move Ordinance 2024-27 forward to the Assembly for action and asked for unanimous consent. **Hearing no objection, motion passed.**

I. STANDING AGENDA TOPICS – The committee agreed to wait until the worksession to dive into CBJ board recruitment and diversity discussions.

3. Standing Agenda Topic - Links to Other CBJ Functions for Potential SRRC Review - As Time Allows

These topics were brought up as potential topics of interest for the SRRC to review.

Human Resources/Risk Management Department ([webpage](#)): [employment](#), [personnel rules](#), [policies & procedures](#)

CBJ Police Department ([webpage](#)): [JPD Policies](#), [Annual Reports & Strategic Plans](#)

CBJ Municipal Elections ([webpage](#))

CBJ Board Recruitment & Diversity - [CBJ board directory](#) & [CBJ board application](#) - the SRRC chose this as their first topic to work on

The committee will dive into CBJ Board Recruitment and Diversity during the upcoming worksession.

J. STAFF REPORTS

If Committee members would like to hold a worksession the following dates have at least 4 of you available to meet: August 6 or 27.

August 6, 2024 was chosen for a worksession date as that date worked for everyone.

Also, please help get the word out for the vacant seat(s) on the SRRC, interested applicants can reach out to the Clerk's Office or fill out the online application at: <https://juneau-ak.municodemeetings.com/bc/application>

K. COMMITTEE MEMBER / ASSEMBLY LIAISON COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

Mr. Nance noted he listened to the Assembly meeting last night and there was a lot of public testimony and upset around the police shooting that happened downtown on July 15. There was some link to systemic categorization to certain types of people or certain groups that are more in the crosshairs than others for harsh treatment by the police. I could see the SRRC getting involved at some point in that discussion.

Chair Froehlich would like the SRRC to get involved at some point and would love to find a way for the community to engage in police accountability.

L. NEXT MEETING DATES

August 20, 2024 at Noon via Zoom - Regular SRRC for Legislation Review

September 24, 2024 at Noon via Zoom - Regular SRRC for Legislation Review

October 22, 2024 at Noon via Zoom - Regular SRRC (*if there is legislation to review from the 10/21 Assembly Reorganization meeting*)

M. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS - None

N. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee, meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.