



Empower Eau Claire:

Participatory Budgeting

Steering Committee Workshop #6 Notes

Where: City Hall, 203 S. Farwell St., North Conference Room

When: Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Attendance: Jacksen Wolff, Susan Wolfgram, Karen Petersin and Mia Xiong (SC members); Scott Allen, Jenise Briggs, Taylor Graybehl, Billie Hufford and Ned Noel (City Staff). Karen Mumford and Maddie Loeffler (UWEC); Pakou Thao (BBWPCO); True Vue (ECAHMAA); Ben Schwartz and Nycki Wallsch (WEADAPT)

Agenda:

1. Evaluation & Community Group Discussion

Karen Mumford described various outreach methods in evaluation work which depends on what is desired to be accomplished, who is involved, and participants' experiences. It is important to seek wide representation of groups and to respect any cultural preferences.

Pakou Thao and True Vue echoed the sentiments with reaching the Hmong population depending on their age and what is appropriate orally or electronically. Focus groups may serve useful to seek their involvement and opinions.

Ben Schwartz and Nycki Wallsch shared outreach ways to reach people who have faced troubles with the law such as with info sessions and idea collections at expos or inside of the jail.

There was discussion about how the voting process will work and how to reach diverse populations. The method used for the unhoused will look vary different than the general population. Voting will be a formal method but clarity will need to be provided about who

can vote and what to show for identification. Voting locations could be set up with intentionality to reach certain groups.

Karen Petersin stated she could help do idea collection outreach with the Chippewa Valley St. Ministry. Feed My People and Community Table were other possibilities noted.

Other asks have been for information sessions for the JONAH and UWEC Student Senate.

2. Steering Committee Size & Updates

Due to the committee's small size, staff asked visitor attendees to consider serving on the steering committee. The current members were also asked to help recruit.

3. Next steps

Flyers will be translated into Hmong and Spanish for the upcoming informational sessions and idea collection events and distributed across the community. Flyers can be added to a Black & Brown Womyn Power Coalition event at Banbury Place.

Community organizations will be contact again to help spread the word. The idea collection will start December 1st and go to the end of the year. A hard copy and online form will be created to help reach people as well. The program website will be updated with all relevant information.

The committee decided to meet next before the end of the year on December 15th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Ideas collected to date will be reviewed along with beginning to sketch out the voting process in Spring.