Members Present: Bobby Hopewell, Brenda Hughes, Cyekeia Lee, Don Cooney, Linda Snyder, Patrese Griffin, Sholanna Lewis, Matt Lynn, Carol McGlimm, Tim Ready

City Staff: Dorla Bonner, Community Investment Manager; Laura Lam, Assistant City Manager; Sean Fletcher, Director of Parks & Recreation; Kevin Ford, Shared Prosperity Kalamazoo Coordinator

Members Absent: Ben Damerow

Guests: Bridget Timmeney, Program Administrator, Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

Call to Order

Chair Hopewell called the meeting to order at approximately 12:43 pm.

Roll Call

Mr. Ford conducted roll call of Organizing Committee members and determined quorum existed.

Ms. Snyder, supported by Mr. Cooney, moved to accept the absences. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Hughes, supported by Mr. Cooney, moved to accept the minutes from last month. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Committees

SPK Jobs & Families Goal Team Chairs

Ms. Snyder highlighted the Families Goal Team discussion around the identification and immense resident need regarding transportation & community navigation/navigators. The Family Goal Team will set these two issues as agenda items for the November meeting. A Connection was made with Metro and Loaves & Fishes both have representatives on the Families Goal Team, to explore increasing transportation efficiencies for Loaves & Fishes clients. The Families Goal Team engaged in a team building exercise facilitated by Carrie Drake.

Mr. Ford reported out on behalf of the Jobs Goal Team and highlighted the urgency of the Jobs Goal Team members to dive into proposal work and create greater alignment among organizations within existing service delivery system.
New Business

Bridget Timmeney from Upjohn Institute provided a presentation to the Organizing Committee entitled “Community Data System for Upward Mobility.” This highlighted the work regarding the Dr. Light grant & SPK as well as the establishment of a report card. The Community Data System (CDS) would be, in part, looking at data that will feed into larger data such as how children will be better off during the life course and individual, household, and place-based factors that affect families/youth. The database would be used to inform programming and investments related to SPK with the purpose of building a longitudinal data system. Ms. Timmeney noted that to be successful at the individual & household level key critical intervention points should be accessed to improve life outcomes for children/families. Partnerships are being developed by Upjohn to begin to build network to collect data at individual/household levels. Upjohn is looking to make some headway regarding developing data sharing agreements with existing orgs doing work in community data sharing agreements within the year.

Unfinished Business (unfinished or pending matters)

Housing Discussion

Homeless Working Groups

Mr. Lynn provided an update of the Homeless Working Groups birthed from the Bronson Park Encampment experience. Mr. Lynn gave an explanation of working groups and widening of community voices & experiences; what can we do in short-term (30-60 days), creating spaces to co-create solutions around this issue, the importance of people feeling heard & providing platform for people to express themselves.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Hopewell noted a conversation with Rep. Hoadley about Bail Reform policies at the state level. Ms. Bonner lifted up the idea of a renter certification program; renters can go through program to essentially qualify them for being good tenants. This may reduce some apprehension by landlords to stigmatize tenants.

Public Comments—General

None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:04pm.
Submitted by: Kevin Ford Dated: 10/29/18
(Recording Secretary)

Reviewed by: Kevin Ford
(Staff Liaison) Dated: 4-29-19

Approved by: [Signature]
(SPK Organizing Committee Chair/Vice Chair) Dated: 4-29-19