

Agenda

Introduction and Welcome - *Lilah White* | 1 -1:10 pm

- Yordi, Metro Blooms
- Stacey, Hennepin County
- Jessica, Hennepin County
- Diana, Blue Thumb private partner
- Carole, Radiance Resources
- John, Metro Blooms
- Charles, Sierra Club and MN BIPOC EJ
- Dominique, Sierra Club
- Nadia, MN GreenCorps at Metro Blooms
- Fern, Metro Blooms
- Sage, Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District
- Stephanie, City of Rochester
- Becky, Metro Blooms
- Lilah, Metro Blooms
- Nick, Vadnais Lake Area Water Management Organization
- Lindsay, Capital Region Watershed District

Draft for notes and document sharing avenue - *John Bly* | 1:10 - 1:20 pm

Feedback from the group and revisioning

- Blue Thumb web page live (not searchable) for our Environmental Justice Hub
 - Decision to first let Equitable Engagement Committee members review:
 - Description of EJ Hub
 - What documents should be included?
- Meeting Notes: consider making available/unavailable to the public with consideration of overall transparency as well as privacy?

Revisit problem statement 4 + 5 - *Becky Rice* | 1:20 - 1:50 pm

Where did we leave off, and where do we want to go?

- *Statement 4 Discussion*
 - K-12 environmental education students of today will be the staff of tomorrow for EJ. There is also a lack of BIPOC professional role models in the field and we have not reached out enough to underserved youth.
 - Thinking through systems of barriers
 - Number of BIPOC professional role models is small, but there also is a lack of visibility
- *Statement 5 Discussion*
 - We have a fragmented focus on water systems that does not consider wholeness and interconnectedness that is part of many cultural understanding of water.
 - Recognition of and shift in approaches as step for collaboration
 - Traditional Ecological ways of Knowing (TEK) as example
 - Add note that this is not an exhaustive list of problems (group consensus)

Formalizing our guiding principles - *Stacey Lijewski + Becky Rice* | 1:50 - 2:10pm

- IAP2 - [International Association for Public Participation](#)
 - Has a scale that can be used → utilized in government work: includes open ended “Empower” portions for those who follow best practices we suggest
 - Helps government staff and elected officials understand where we are on the scale for different projects and programs
- Dominique - *Who are the community groups or individuals who are able to hold us to account to some of these principles and help make this assessment tool usable?*
 - Create a space of accountability - considering a BIPOC advisory board
 - Accessibility and preferences for Spanish speaking communities and other language barriers
 - Comp plans: accessibility as issue for general public

Look at our timelines once again - Yordanose Solomon | 2:10 - 2:35 pm

- Yordi shared timeline document that was created in September
 - Shift October goals/timeline → focus on Equity Statement first

Establishing working groups - Stacey Lijewski | 2:35 - 2:50 pm

How do we envision this work taking place?

- Workgroups:
 - *Comp Plans and Best Practices*
 - Nick offered to review and create best practices and incorporate these in workshops
 - *Workshop for partners and public*
 - Pre-existing EJ resources and being mindful on how we supplement but not duplicate
 - *Resources (staff, funding)*
 - We need to work on a plan to have compensation for members of this advisory
 - Plan to form BIPOC Advisory
 - *Problem Statement and Group definitions*
 - establishing and creating concrete plans around guiding principles, accountability, novelty, and share this with new members

Next steps - Lilah White | 2:50 - 3:00 pm

Where do we go from here?