



## District 8 Community Round Table – D8CRT

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### **Meeting Minutes** **July 1, 2020 @ 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM** **Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Jeremy Barousse.

President's report – If you would like to join the D8CRT, the dues are \$20/year. Our next meeting will be Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, returning to our normal 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month schedule.

East Side Union High School District – Chris Funk, Superintendent. There have been many challenges due to COVID-19, but the district is continuing with tutoring, assistance with college applications and tuition aid. Social workers are working full time to address students' needs. Lunch has been expanded from 30 minutes to 75 minutes to enable students to pick up their lunches and also be able to access some additional assistance when needed. Suggestions from the community have been to divide the classes in half to enable social distancing, but there are not enough classrooms and teachers to be able to do that. A suggestion was made to rent unused elementary school classrooms, but the costs and the dividing of administrative personnel across several locations would be very complicated. 46% of parents surveyed do not intend to send their students back to school in the fall. The district is trying to keep things as simple as possible, and adjust as things evolve. The district has been working with the City to extend wi-fi, hot spots and the delivering of Chrome books to students who need them. The City has been working with just one vendor and doing one location at a time, so the project is taking much longer than anticipated. The district would like several vendors and have all the schools done at once, but the City is in charge of the project. If students miss 3 classes in a row, the teachers are required to report that to the administration so they can reach out to the students and their families to see what can be done. This will be done by in-home visits if necessary. Silicon Valley Technical School training is continuing with 1 day a week in person and the balance of the week virtual across the various schools.

San Jose-Evergreen Community College District (SJECCD) – Dr. Byron Breland, Chancellor. Dr. Breland introduced Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson who just became the President of Evergreen Valley College (EVC) San Jose City College (SJCC\_ has been in operation for over 100 years, and EVC for 46 years. Due to COVID-19, everything is now online and will continue through the fall semester. SJECCD has a \$895.7 million impact on the local community. EVC is 2<sup>nd</sup> in the nation and SJCC is 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation on faculty diversity. 84% Asian and 79% Latinx are successful transfers to the UC system. Graduate earnings – Number 1 in California and number 3 in the nation for median graduate earnings.

San Jose Independent Police Auditor – Erin O'Neill, assistant IPA auditor has been in the office for 8 years and assistant auditor for 1-1/2 years. They are just a 6 person office, so they have been very challenged, especially since the murder of George Floyd. Their objective is for investigations to be fair, thorough and objective. They also do community outreach. On August 4<sup>th</sup>, there will be discussions on a possible ballot measure in November to strengthen the IPA and make the office more independent. After the BLM protests, they had more calls and inquiries than ever before. [Sanjoseca.gov/your-government/appointees/independent-police-auditor](http://Sanjoseca.gov/your-government/appointees/independent-police-auditor).

Santa Clara County NAACP – Rev. Jethroe Moore, President. The NAACP is the organization with the longest national history of fighting against discrimination, racism and abuse. We still have many problems here. There is still a color line and systemic racism. Police unions here and across the country have failed to act when their officers are charged with discrimination or abuse. The NAACP is asking

that Juneteenth be made a national holiday. They are working on affordable housing, public health, food insecurity, jobs pipelines, increasing wi-fi access. They are investigating how police aggression led to increased violence and vandalism during the BLM protests. Facebook has had undue influence in promoting conspiracy theories and political unrest. On the question of defunding the police, the NAACP's position is that the militarization and warrior cop mentality need to be reformed, and decertification of police needs to be changed to prevent officers who were bad apples in another city do not transfer to another jurisdiction. Rev. Moore believes there needs to be a change of leadership in the police officers' union.

Councilperson Sylvia Arenas – Patrick McGarrity, Chief of Staff and Nancy Le – Assistant Chief of Staff. Registrations are still open for summer camps to be held around the district this summer for children ages 5-12. Scholarships are available for those unable to afford the camps. The district is working one on one with local small businessowners to assist them with COVID-related issues. The wi-fi program for schools needs to progress faster so students are not left behind. \$8 million allocated to this, and hot spots should be available all across the district by this fall. The district is working at expanding childcare so parents can return to work when safe, and also working on eliminating systemic racism across District 8. The councilperson is against the idea of voting a strong mayor system. She feels it would restrict community access and influence.

Land Use Committee – Robert Reese. New planning commissions have been appointed across the city. District 8 commission is Jorge Garcia. The Evergreen Development Process needs to be reviewed. Discussions about placing multi-family units – up to 4 plexes – on current single family lots are ongoing. It is proposed that this could be done by owner right. Lots of concerns such as traffic, parking, infrastructure, etc. need to be addressed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

The next meeting is Thursday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm by Zoom.