



**Commission on Poverty
Meeting Agenda
February 27, 2024
1:00-4:00PM**

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| I. Opening of Meeting & Roll Call
Chair: Dr. Marla M. Dean | 1:00pm |
| II. Review and Approval of January 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes | 1:05pm |
| III. Team Building Activity | 1:10pm |
| IV. Development of Committee Community Agreements
Facilitator: Vice Chair Elijah Moses
A. Overview of Principled Struggle
B. Development of Norms | 1:25pm |
| V. Discussion Items
Facilitator: Vice Chair Elijah Moses | 1:40pm |
| A. Commissioner Education Activities | 1:45pm |
| 1. DC Open Meetings Act Training (§ 18-350)
a. Quiz
b. Discussion | |
| 2. Organizational Structure of the Commission
a. Commissioner Membership and Terms (§ 3-641.02)
b. Commission and Staff Roles (§ 3-641.05) | |
| B. Commission Work Plan | 2:15pm |
| 1. Recruitment of Commission Members Action Plan | |
| 2. Commission Internal Structures Action Plan | |
| 3. Listening Sessions (§ 3-641.04) | |
| 4. Eradicating Poverty Summit (§ 3-641.03 (a)(8)) | |
| 5. Poverty Reduction Plan (§ 3-641.06) | |
| - | |
| C. Consultant Statement of Work | 3:15pm |
| 1. Community-Led Systems Change Process | |
| 2. Eradicating Poverty Summit | |
| 3. Learning and research activities of the Commission including travel to other jurisdictions to research effective programs and strategies to eradicate poverty. | |
| 4. Other | |

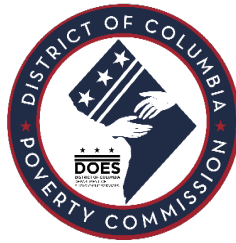


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| VI. Action Items | 3:30pm |
| A. Recruitment of Commission Members Action Plan | |
| B. Committee Internal Structures Action Plan | |
| C. Consultant Statement of Work | |
| VII. Updates | 3:40pm |
| - February 21, 2024 Performance Oversight Hearing:
Committee on Executive Administration & Labor | |
| VIII. Next Steps | 3:45pm |
| IX. Announcements | 3:50pm |
| X. Adjournment | 4:00pm |

Materials Needed for Meeting:

- Agenda
- Markers
- Chart Paper
- Draft Work Plan



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Applicable Law:

§ 3-641.02. Commission on Poverty; establishment.

Section (4)(A) An appointed member of the Commission shall serve a term of 3 years; except, that of the initial members, 7 members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, 6 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, and 6 for a term of one year.

§ 3-641.03. Commission on Poverty; functions.

(a) The Commission shall:

- (1) Serve as **District leaders in advancing policies and initiatives** aimed at elevating the needs of persons in poverty;
- (2) **Review and make comments and recommendations on existing and proposed programs, policies, administrative rules, and statutes** that have an impact on poverty in the District and, in particular, on District residents living in poverty;
- (3) Represent the Commission and the interests of persons in poverty before District public bodies and agencies.
- (4) As required by § 3-641.06, **develop a comprehensive, strategic poverty-reduction plan** for the reduction of poverty in the District;
- (5) **Following the adoption of the poverty-reduction plan, meet and issue annual reports on the poverty-reduction plan**, which shall include updates on the implementation of the poverty-reduction plan and updates on District legislative and agency initiatives that address or intersect with poverty, which reports the Commission shall submit to the Mayor and the Council;
- (6) On an ongoing basis and in preparation for issuance of its annual report, **conduct studies and review the progress of programs and District agencies** engaged in addressing poverty;
- (7) **Hold public meetings, hearings, and listening sessions** as required by § 3-641.06 and in compliance with subchapter IV of Chapter 5 of Title 2;



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(8) **Periodically conduct forums of experts** on matters affecting the health, safety, and welfare of persons in poverty;

(9) **Establish and maintain a publicly accessible website**, on which the Commission shall post the following content:

- (A) The poverty-reduction plan;
- (B) The Commission's annual reports;
- (C) Notice of the Commission's meetings, hearings, and listening sessions;
- and
- (D) Any other notices or information the Commission determines appropriate.

(10) **Review and comment on proposed District legislation, including the Mayor's annual budget submission to the Council, and regulations, policies, and programs** that address or may have an effect on poverty;

(11) **Identify and track the adoption and progress of the Commission's recommendations** in the poverty-reduction plan; and

(12) **Request and receive information and data from various governmental and non-governmental sources** necessary to aid the Commission in the discharge of its responsibilities.

- (b) To the extent not otherwise restricted by District or federal law, the Commission shall have the authority to request directly from each department, agency, or instrumentality of the District any non-confidential information considered necessary by the Commission to fulfill its mandate; and each department, agency, or instrumentality shall provide such required non-confidential information to the Commission upon its request.

§ 3-641.04. meetings and listening sessions.

Section (a) The Commission shall meet on a regular basis, as determined by the Chairperson, but at least **6 times annually**, with **4** of those meetings being **listening sessions**.

(b)(1) The listening sessions shall be located in communities with a high concentration of persons in poverty. The Commission shall seek the testimony of:



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- (A) Individuals who have been impacted by poverty and related injustices;
- (B) Policy advocates;
- (C) Direct-service providers;
- (D) Community leaders; and
- (E) Faith and religious leaders.

(2) The purpose of the listening sessions shall be to:

- (A) Document the material conditions of poverty and related issues in communities with high concentrations of persons in poverty and the impact of such conditions on residents and the community at large; and
- (B) Assess the resources that already exist in the community, including leadership, grass-roots efforts, and overall resilience to determine how the District could assist the community in addressing poverty and its effects.

§ 3-641.05. Commission on Poverty; resources and staff.

(a)(1) The Commission shall have **at least 3 paid staff persons, including an Executive Director.**

(2)(A) The Mayor shall appoint the Executive Director.

(B) The Executive Director shall:

- (i) Be a resident of the District;
- (ii) Devote full time to the duties of the position;
- (iii) Report on a regular basis, as determined by the Chairperson, to the Commission; and
- (iv) Hire and supervise other Commission staff, as the approved budget for the Commission permits.

(3) At least **one member of the staff shall have been in poverty** at sometime within the 3-year period before the individual's date of hire.

(b)(1) **Staff** shall assist in the preparation of the **poverty-reduction plan** and **annual reports, conduct the administrative activities** of the Commission, and **perform other duties**, as directed by the Commission's Chairperson.

§ 3-641.06. Poverty-reduction plan.



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Section 106(a) **Within 365 days after** at least **13 of the appointed members** of the Commission have been appointed, and **every 5 years thereafter**, the Commission shall approve, by majority vote, a poverty-reduction plan and submit it to the Mayor and the Council.