

**NOVEMBER 7, 2022 VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE
COMMUNICATIONS EQUITY AND DIVERSITY COUNCIL
1:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

**Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street, NE
Washington, DC**

MEETING MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

HEATHER GATE, Council Chair; Connected Nation
NICOL TURNER LEE, PhD, Council Vice Chair; Brookings Institution
SUSAN AU ALLEN, Council Vice Chair; US Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce
Education Foundation
CLAYTON BANKS, Silicon Harlem
MATTHEW BAUER, Wireless Research Center
CAROLINE BEASLEY, Beasley Media Group, LLC
ROBERT BRANSON, Multicultural Media Telecom and Internet Council
ROBERT BROOKS, WHUR-FM, Howard University
JOI CHANEY, National Urban League
MELODY SPANN COOPER, Midway Broadcasting Corporation
GRAHAM "SKIP" DILLARD, WQHT-FM/WBLS-FM New York City, MediaCo Inc.
SARAH KATE ELLIS, GLAAD
CECELIA GORDON, STARZ
DOMINIQUE HARRISON, PhD, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies
DAVID HONIG, JulGlo Productions, LLC
JILL HOUGHTON, Disability:IN
CHRIS JAMES, National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development
BRODERICK JOHNSON, Comcast Corporation
SHERMAN KIZART, Kizart Media Partners
ROSA MENDOZA, ALLvanza
AAMA NAHUJA, A Wonder Media Company
LOUIS PERAERTZ, Wireless Internet Service Provider Association
HENRY RIVERA, Representing Emma Bowen Foundation
STEVEN ROBERTS, The Roberts Companies
VICKIE ROBINSON, Microsoft
BRIAN SCARPELLI, ACT/The App Association
CHARLYN STANBERRY, National Association of Broadcasters
JOCELYN TATE, Black Women's Roundtable, National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
ANTONIO TIJERINO, Hispanic Heritage Foundation
CHRISTOPHER WOOD, LGBT Technology Partnership & Institute

LAURA BERROCAL, Charter Communications, Inc.
JON GANT, PhD, North Carolina Central University; Independent Subject Matter Expert
REBECCA GIBBONS, Office for Community Technology, City of Portland, Oregon
ANISA GREEN, AT&T
TSION TESFAYE, National Digital Inclusion Alliance
MATTHEW WOOD, Free Press
EDGAR CLASS, Wiley Rein LLP
HOWIE HODGES, II, Centri Tech
JENNIFER JACKSON, Stellar TV and Central City Productions
LETICIA LATINO-VAN SPLUTEREN, Neptuno USA
EVE LEWIS, City of Coconut Creek, Florida
DIANNE LYNCH, PhD, Stephens College; Independent
ALICIA TAMBE, Meta
JENNA ALSAYEGH, US Telecom
FAITH BAUTISTA, National Diversity Coalition
LILI GANGAS, Kapor Center
ELLEN SCHNED, Strong Women Alliance
CATHY SCHUBERT, MD, American Geriatrics Society

COUNCIL STAFF:

JAMILA BESS JOHNSON, Designated Federal Officer, CEDC; Media Bureau
RASHANN DUVALL, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer, CEDC; Wireline Competition Bureau
KEYLA HERNANDEZ-ULLOA, Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer, CEDC; Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
AURELIE MATHIEU, Attorney Advisor, CEDC; Wireline Competition Bureau

HOLLY SAURER, Chief, Media Bureau

Link to November 7, 2022 Meeting Transcript: <https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/cedc-11072022-transcript.pdf>

Welcome and Opening of Meeting: Holly Saurer, Chief, Media Bureau, welcomed CEDC members and the public to the meeting, indicating that the meeting would focus on a discussion of the final report of the Digital Empowerment and Inclusion (DEI) Working Group on findings and recommendations for states and localities to prevent digital discrimination by Internet Service Providers (ISPs). Saurer thanked the working group, on behalf of FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel, for its many months of diligent efforts conducting research and interviews with experts. Jamila Bess Johnson, Designated Federal Officer of the CEDC, Media Bureau, provided opening remarks, and introduced Rashann Duvall, CEDC Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Wireline Competition Bureau, Keyla Hernandez-Ulloa, CEDC Co-Deputy Designated Federal Officer, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, and Aurélie Mathieu, Attorney Advisor, Wireline Competition Bureau, for introductory comments.

CEDC Chair and Vice Chairs' Opening Remarks. Heather Gate, CEDC Chair and member representative for Connected Nation, congratulated the DEI Working Group on its months' long examination of broadband deployment, access and adoption as part of its efforts to provide

recommendations on ways to prevent digital discrimination by ISPs. Gate particularly thanked DEI Working Group Chair Dr. Dominique Harrison (Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies), Workstream 1 Co-Leads Joi Chaney, CEDC member (National Urban League) and Dr. Jon Gant (North Carolina Central University), a broadband equity subject matter expert, CEDC Vice Chair Dr. Nicol Turner Lee (Brookings Institution) for her assistance in editing the report, and CEDC Vice Chair Susan Au Allen (US Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation) for her emphasis on supplier diversity in developing report recommendations.

CEDC Vice Chair Dr. Nicol Turner Lee reminded members that their deliberations, research, and drafting have been difficult and challenging tasks. Dr. Turner Lee emphasized the importance of the work for addressing broadband equity and inclusion, as well as supplier diversity in broadband. CEDC Vice Chair Susan Au Allen thanked Chair Gate for her leadership of the CEDC, and all of the members of the DEI Working Group for their work over several months to provide input to the FCC on ways to prevent digital discrimination.

Roll Call of CEDC Members/Call to Order of November 7, 2022 Meeting. A quorum was present at the meeting.

Digital Empowerment and Inclusion Working Group Report. Dr. Dominique Harrison, Chair of the Digital Empowerment and Inclusion Working Group (DEI Working Group), provided an overview of the mission of working group and highlighted that the objective of Workstream 1 of the working group was to provide recommendations for reducing and removing regulatory barriers for the equitable deployment of and investment in broadband access and adoption in all communities, including tribal, rural and historically marginalized communities.

Workstream 1 Co-Lead Joi Chaney described the process by which the workstream group conducted its efforts, including wide-ranging weekly interviews that assessed success stories from states and localities, business models of internet networks and infrastructures, as well as discrimination challenges in other parts of the American experience. Workstream 1 Co-Lead Dr. Jon Gant explained that digital discrimination is a complex concept that can manifest itself in many ways as Americans extend their use and adoption of technology and associated devices. Dr. Gant explained the model policies and best practices adopted by Workstream 1 and approved by the DEI Working Group, which would be considered and voted upon by the CEDC.

Discussion of and Vote on CEDC Report. CEDC members discussed several issues pertaining to digital discrimination including the need to have the various stakeholders in public and private entities consider multiple translations when dealing with the public, how the recommendations would be considered by the FCC, the possibility of sharing the adopted report with the National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA), and how other CEDC workstreams can build upon the recommendations in the DEI Working Group report. The CEDC unanimously voted to approve and adopt the report and recommendations, and forward the adopted report and recommendations to FCC Chairwoman Rosenworcel.

Questions/Comments from the Public. There were no questions or comments from the public.

Adjournment. Following closing comments from CEDC Chair Gate, CEDC Vice Chair Dr. Nicol Turner Lee, CEDC Vice Chair Susan Au Allen, and FCC CEDC staff, the meeting was adjourned by CEDC Chair Gate.

CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES

I have reviewed the above minutes dated November 7, 2022, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, they are accurate and complete.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Gate, Executive Vice President, Digital Inclusion
Connected Nation
Chair, Communications Equity and Diversity Council
Federal Communications Commission