

## Lifelong Education: Meeting #2

August 10, 2021, 2:00 PM | 2 hours

**Documented by: Daniela Jaime**

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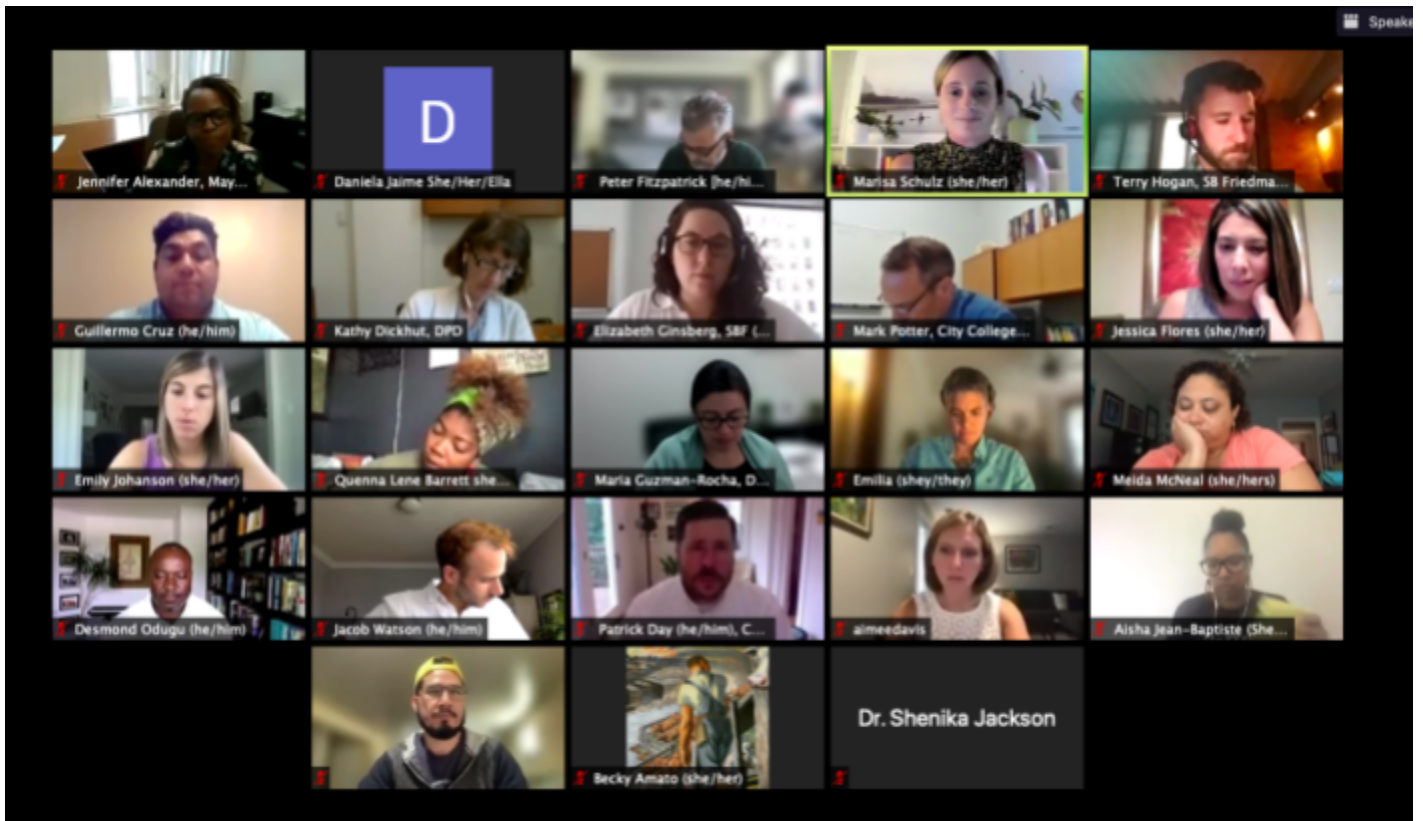
### MEETING MATERIALS

[Agenda](#)

[Presentation](#)

### ATTENDEES

- Marisa Schulz
- Dr. Catherine Hollis
- Aimee Davis
- Emily Johanson
- Jessica Flores
- José Luis Rodríguez
- Peter Fitzpatrick
- Quenna Barrett
- Aisha Jean-Baptiste
- Rebecca Amato
- Desmond Odugu
- Guillermo Cruz
- Jacob Watson
- Kathleen Dickhut
- Maria Guzman-Rocha
- Renuka Sharma
- Shenika S. Jackson
- Elizabeth Ginsburg
- Emilia
- Jennifer Alexander
- Mark Potter
- Meida McNeal
- Patrick Day
- Terry Hogan



A Zoom meeting grid showing 20 participants in a 5x4 layout. The participants are:

- Row 1: Jennifer Alexander, Daniela Jaime She/Her/Ella (blue square with 'D'), Peter Fitzpatrick, Marisa Schulz, Terry Hogan.
- Row 2: Guillermo Cruz, Kathy Dickhut, Elizabeth Ginsberg, Mark Potter, Jessica Flores.
- Row 3: Emily Johanson, Quenna Lane Barrett, Maria Guzman-Rocha, Emilia, Meida McNeal.
- Row 4: Desmond Odugu, Jacob Watson, Patrick Day, aimeedavis, Aisha Jean-Baptiste.
- Row 5: A participant with a yellow headband, Becky Amato (with a painting background), and Dr. Shenika Jackson (with a black background).

**MEETING GOAL**

*To assess Chicago community perspectives on fostering lifelong learning within neighborhoods as part of Chicago's citywide planning initiative.*

**WHERE WE ARE**

Step 1

**We Are***Setting the Stage*

Step 2

**We Have and Need***Develop A Policy Toolkit*

Step 3

**We Will***Set Policy Framework***KEY TAKEAWAYS**

- 1** | We Will Chicago's community development plan intends to center equity and attempt to correct the systemic injustices of past policies in communities of color.
- 2** | Teams of community artists, led by Honey Pot Performance, will host community events to elicit feedback and input on the Lifelong Education pillar strategies. Lifelong Learning was not originally a We Will Chicago pillar but was added after Phase 1 in response to community feedback.
- 3** | The group framed initial recommendations, including improvement of relationships between businesses/trade industries and existing learning institutions, investment in programming structures or models for unique and robust youth-centered workforce development and evaluation of hiring practices and policies to remove barriers that have historically excluded members of disenfranchised communities.

CONVERSATION HIGHLIGHTS

*"[These responses] signal to me and Marisa that we will have that plan of attack, it sounds like you need it and we do too."*

**Emilia Chico** | We Will Chicago, Facilitator

*"What brought you joy from your neighborhood growing up?"*

**Marissa Schulz** | We Will Chicago, Facilitator

*"[I'm] thinking a lot about what historical actions create...how little access people have to primary documents."*

**Rebecca Amato** | Illinois Humanities, Director of Teaching and Learning

*"When I think about historical reckoning I feel like the names [of community schools] were very important."*

**Dr. Shenika Jackson** | MY Foundation: Street Smarts to Great Starts Corp.

*"[It's] an immense challenge, undying hope... the product of our own ways of seeing reality, traumas we inherited and continued to produce."*

**Desmond Odugu** | Volunteer / Lake Forest College

## NOTES

### Kickoff and Introductions

- We Will Chicago, the city's first citywide planning initiative since 1966 Comprehensive Plan will be presented to the Chicago Plan Commission and City Council for adoption in 2023. The process is in partnership with multiple planning agencies such as Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and Muse Community + Design, which are specifically tasked with designing "an inclusive and equitable process to shape pre-planning outreach including conversations and documents in Spanish," according to the [We Will Chicago website](#). Planning pillars include Transportation Infrastructure, Public Health and Safety, Lifelong Learning, Housing & Neighborhoods, Environment, Climate and Energy, Economic Development, and Arts and Culture.
- Bloomberg Associates, the property management firm owned by Mike Bloomberg, former mayor of New York is offering management assistance and acting as advisory group to the City of Chicago on a pro-bono basis through the initial months of the campaign. Other local partners include Metropolitan Planning Council, Ratio Architects, Ginkgo Planning & Design and the Center for Neighborhood Technology
- "The Lifelong Learning pillar acknowledges that learning almost never stops for anyone who constantly seeks self-improvement," according to the [We Will Chicago website](#). Participants suggested using technology to expand educational opportunities for both pre- and post-school, improve and modernize Chicago's educational resources, tech-aid for access and payment for the CTA and other transportation.
- Honey Pot Performance is the lead public engagement artist in charge of connecting with a diverse group of Chicagoans. Artist teams will engage with the community in a two-part approach: teams will address issues in neighborhoods throughout the city, and a mobile team will cover the remaining communities. Each team will host its own programming workshops, conversations, design exercises and skill-sharing events to activate the ideas and concepts that are most important to the community. According to HPP, the guiding principles it will follow are Equity, Diversity, and Resiliency.

### Overview

- Feedback on the prompt "describe your most successful meeting experience" was provided by participants. Responses included: "Dynamic, room for discovery and play," "Everyone was equal regardless of pay/position" and "Equity of voice." Another prompt asked members of the group to describe the qualities of past meetings that made them successful. Participants then workshopped group norms and identified their own strengths and working styles.
- Themes of We Will Chicago group sessions include Historical Reckoning & Trust Building, Systematic Evaluation of Equity Impacts, Accessible & Meaningful Community Engagement, Accountability Through Shared Metrics & Transparency, and Sustained Interagency & Cross Collaboration
  - Historical Reckoning frameworks and prompts:
    - How has education been historically provided in Chicago, and how do we make sense of it now?

- How are you making sense of reckoning? How is historical reckoning connected to your work? How is historical reckoning connected to our pillar?
- The group framed initial recommendations, including improvement of relationships between businesses/trade industries and existing learning institutions, investment in programming structures or models for unique and robust youth-centered workforce development and evaluation of hiring practices and policies to remove barriers that have historically excluded members of disenfranchised communities.

## Agenda

- Recording Consent + Reflective Prompt
- Meet the Co-chairs + Agenda Review + Examples of End Product
- Group Norms Activity
- Strengths and Working Styles Activity
- Historical Reckoning Framework Discussion
- Planning Process and Context Presentation
- Introduction to Phase 1 Priority Topic Areas
- Close-out and Homework

## RESOURCES

### Honey Pot Performance

Involvement with We Will Chicago <https://www.honeypotperformance.org/we-will-chicago>

### Metropolitan Planning Council Press Release

A Citywide Plan in Chicago: <https://www.metroplanning.org/work/project/50/subpage/1>

### StreetsBlog Chicago article

WWC:

<https://chi.streetsblog.org/2021/05/03/we-will-chicago-is-chicagos-first-citywide-planning-initiative-in-50-years/>

### We Will Chicago

Pillars, Themes, & Principles: <https://wewillchicago.com/pillars-themes-principles>

### We Will Chicago's Planning Artists:

<https://wewillchicago.com/artists>

### Chicago Department of Planning and Development

Press Release:

[https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dcd/provdrs/we\\_will\\_chicago/news/2020/august/citywide-planning-initiative--we-will-chicago--aims-to-foster-.html](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/dcd/provdrs/we_will_chicago/news/2020/august/citywide-planning-initiative--we-will-chicago--aims-to-foster-.html)

### **Chicago Suntimes Article**

Public reaction to We Will Chicago initiatives:

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/2021/5/1/22409837/we-will-chicago-future-plan-1966-municipal-plan-burnham-editorial>

### **Lifelong Learning Team members**

<https://wewillchicago.com/we-will-teams>

### **We Will Chicago**

Initial meeting Documentarian reports:

[https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/dcd/we\\_will/we\\_will\\_documents/Documenter\\_Summary\\_WeWill\\_Meeting1\\_20210728.pdf](https://www.chicago.gov/content/dam/city/depts/dcd/we_will/we_will_documents/Documenter_Summary_WeWill_Meeting1_20210728.pdf)

#### NEXT STEPS

- Past community plans will be sent out to Pillar participants for review and feedback that will inform development of the We Will Chicago plan
- Guiding questions for participants: Do these topics address my community's or organizations needs and priorities for this pillar? What could be added or removed? "How can we ensure workforce development for all?"
  - Jacob Watson, Artist-Organizer with Honey Pot Performance: "We also have identified some emergent topic areas coming out of the arts-based engagement process that we can offer to the conversation between now + next meeting"