

METRO COUNCIL GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, March 2, 1998

Council Chamber

Members Present: Susan McLain (Chair), Lisa Naito (Vice Chair), Ruth McFarland

Members Absent: None

Chair McLain called the meeting to order at 1:38 P.M.

Chair McLain said the meeting minutes from February 23, 1998, would be ready at the next Governmental Affairs Committee meeting on March 16, 1998.

1. RESOLUTION NO. 98-2616, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING NEW NOMINEES FOR FEBRUARY 1998 TO THE METRO COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT (MCCI)

Aleta Woodruff, Vice Chair of MCCI and Chair of the MCCI Nominating Committee, presented the resolution. She said she hopes to amend MCCI's bylaws so that the Council does not need to approve the reinstatement of old members or members who have volunteered for a second term. She said the Council would need to approve any changes to MCCI's bylaws.

Councilor McFarland said she will work with Ms. Woodruff on amendments to MCCI's bylaws.

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved that Resolution No. 98-2616 be moved to the full Metro Council with a recommendation for approval.

Vote: Councilors Naito, McFarland, and McLain voted aye. The vote was 3/0 in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Chair McLain will carry Resolution No. 98-2616 to the full Metro Council.

2. PUBLIC OUTREACH UPDATE

Beth Anne Steele, Council Public Outreach Coordinator, and Janice Larson, Creative Services Supervisor, gave an update on the work of the Metro Communication Team. Ms. Steele distributed a handout to the committee entitled "Metro Communication Team." A copy is included in the meeting record.

Ms. Steele presented a slide show on Metro. She said the slide show is separated into six modules that may be removed or expanded depending on the audience. She said the slide show will be available to all Metro departments and officials. Ms. Steele said the Metro Communication Team asks that any group presenting the slide show use the first and last modules to provide an overview of Metro and public involvement. A copy of the slide show script is included in the meeting record. Ms. Steele reviewed the work being done on a speaker's bureau.

Karen Blauer, Executive Office Public Affairs Coordinator, updated the committee on the facility identification project. She said the task force is surveying all Metro facilities to determine what signage exists and what improvements could be made to better identify Metro facilities. She said a draft survey should be complete by Wednesday, with a week for refinement.

Chair McLain asked if the task force has asked MCCI for suggestions. She said MCCI has commented every year on the lack of adequate signage.

Ms. Blauer said she has a copy of a memo from MCCI to the Council identifying opportunities for improved signage, and the facilities identification task force is considering MCCI's suggestions. She said the task force is looking for comments and suggestions from various groups.

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Chair McLain asked Ms. Blauer if the task force will solicate additional comments from internal departments and boards, such as Friends of the Zoo and the Metro Exposition-Recreation Commission (MERC).

Ms. Blauer said yes. She said the Metro Communication Team's MERC contact is receiving the survey and recommendations before the information goes to the cabinet for review.

Councilor McFarland asked how soon the slide show and script will be ready for use at speaking engagements. Ms. Steele said the original copy of the slide show is ready now, and soon there will be three or four copies ready to show at any time.

Ms. Woodruff said MCCI was the first to be presented with the slides. She recommended that Metro investigate the cost of installing a continuous-reel video of the slide show in the main hallway of the Metro Regional Center. She said she would like to see Metro pendants on all Metro facilities. Chair McLain agreed.

Ms. Steele said the Metro Communication Team has discussed installing a continuous-reel video in the main hallway. She said that due to the high cost, it was given a lower priority. She said their current work has to come out of the existing budget. Chair McLain suggested that they look at possible corporate sponsorship.

Councilor Naito said she likes the speaker's bureau format. She said the advantage of the slide show's format is that speakers can tailor the slide show to groups' interests. She said it is good to give a brief overview of Metro when speaking to public groups.

Ms. Steele said that another concern about a continuous-reel video is that topics such as the budget would have to be updated regularly.

Chair McLain said it is a good idea to have the slide show in modules. She said she supports Ms. Woodruff's suggestion for a continuous-reel video in the hallway. She said the video could give a brief overview of Metro that would not have to be updated regularly.

Ms. Larson updated the committee on the work on message and design standards. She said they may use a focus group to determine if recent changes have been effective. Chair McLain said she supports the idea of a focus group, and asked to hear the results.

3. ETHICS WORK SESSION

- **ETHICS CODE RESOLUTION**
- **LOBBYIST REGISTRATION ORDINANCE**

Chair McLain said she would like to have an informal discussion of the ethics code.

Councilor Naito distributed a copy of her proposed amendments to Exhibit A of the resolution. A copy of her amendment is included in the meeting record. Also included in the meeting record is a copy of Councilor Naito's amendment with her written comments. Councilor Naito presented her amendments. She proposed that the code of ethics apply to all Metro staff and elected officials, except for item one of "Objectivity," which would only apply to Council staff.

Chair McLain asked legal counsel if Councilor Naito's first proposed amendment would contradict the Metro Charter or Metro Code in any way.

Marv Fjordbeck, Senior Assistant Counsel, said he is in the process of reconciling the current ethical requirements provision in the Metro Code with the provisions in the proposed ethical code. He asked the committee for its intent regarding represented employees. He asked the committee if it intends to replace the existing standards with the proposed standards. Councilor Naito said her intent is to add a higher standard above the standards of State law. Chair McLain agreed.

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Mr. Fjordbeck asked if the committee intends to change the current resolution into an ordinance. Chair McLain said yes; legal counsel advised her that with an ordinance, the Metro Council can adopt higher ethical standards that the State imposes.

Councilor McFarland said she supports the proposed amendments.

Chair McLain thanked Councilor McFarland for her support. She recommended that the committee leave in the language about Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) in item four of the section "Trust." She said the language proposed by Councilor Naito should be used as an additional modifier.

Councilor Naito asked legal counsel to develop language that will incorporate her language and the struck language. She suggested adding language to the beginning of the code that clarifies that the code of ethics goes beyond State requirements.

Chair McLain said she supports Councilor's language for item two of "Trust." She asked for additional questions from the committee. There were none.

Chair McLain said she is comfortable with the proposed language for the lobbyist registration. She said she wants to ensure that there is nothing in the draft that will prevent or hinder the public and volunteers from talking to their elected officials.

Councilor Naito said she supports the draft version of the lobbyist registration. She asked legal counsel if, under State law, one can testify as many times as one wants without registering as a lobbyist.

Mr. Fjordbeck said the state standard is similar to the proposed language in section 2(3), which does not require such individuals to register as lobbyists. He said an individual who testifies is required to register an appearance in the meeting record, which is accomplished through testimony cards.

Mr. Fjordbeck asked the committee for direction on section 1(4). He asked the committee if it intends for the word "lobbying" to include attempts to persuade Executive staff to persuade members of the Council. Chair McLain said yes.

Chair McLain asked Meg Bushman, Council Analyst, to prepare a final version of the ordinance by March 13, 1998.

4. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

There being no further business before the committee, Chair McLain adjourned the meeting at 2:41 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Myers
Council Assistant

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ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MARCH 2, 1998

The following have been included as part of the official public record.

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
Public Outreach Update	3/2/98	Metro Communication Team summary sheet	030298ga-01
	2/26/98	Metro Slide Show, 2/26/98, script	030298gm-02
Ethics Work Session	3/2/98	Naito Amendment, Exhibit A, Code of Ethics	030298gm-03
	3/2/98	Naito Amendment, Exhibit A, Code of Ethics, with Councilor Naito's notes	030298gm-04

Oral Testifiers (testimony cards included)

Resolution No. 98-2616

Aleta Woodruff