

METRO COUNCIL GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, May 4, 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 1:35 P.M.

1. CONSIDERATION OF THE APRIL 6, 1998, GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved for adoption of the minutes of the April 6, 1998, Governmental Affairs Committee meeting.

Vote: Councilors McFarland and McLain voted aye. Councilor Naito was absent. The vote was 2/0 in favor and the motion passed.

2. RESOLUTION NO. 98-2631, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACCEPTING A NOMINEE TO THE METRO COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

Aleta Woodruff, Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI) presented the resolution. She reviewed Dale Chambers' community involvement and said his appointment to MCCI would fill one of the three vacancies in District 4. She said Mr. Chambers attended MCCI's general meeting in April and confirmed his interest in serving on MCCI. She thanked the committee for its consideration of the resolution.

Ms. Woodruff thanked Beth Anne Steele, Council Public Outreach Coordinator, for her work on three presentations the week before, and said the different types of representation at the forums was very beneficial.

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 98-2631.

Vote: Councilors McFarland and McLain voted aye. Councilor Naito was absent. The vote was 2/0 in favor and the motion passed.

Councilor McFarland will carry Resolution No. 98-2631 to the full Metro Council.

3. RESOLUTION NO. 98-2645, FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPROVING 1998 BYLAWS AMENDMENTS FOR THE METRO COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT

Kay Durtschi, Chair of MCCI, said MCCI has spent the past two years amending its bylaws, and the changes have been approved by MCCI. She said legal counsel recommended an additional amendment in lines 83-85. A copy of the legal counsel's proposed amendment is included in the meeting record. Ms. Durtschi said MCCI omitted one page from its bylaws which listed district positions and expiration dates. She said the list will now be in MCCI's policies, rather than its bylaws, so that it will be easier to adapt when necessary. She said the formality and member rotation will not change.

Karen Withrow, MCCI Administrative Assistant, said Resolution No. 98-2645 will also change MCCI from a fiscal year to a calendar year. She said MCCI recently reorganized its subcommittees based on departments rather than subjects, and changing the committee's calendar will facilitate the new subcommittees' work.

Chair McLain asked if the committee needed to amend Resolution No. 98-2645 to an A version.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, May 5, 1998

Page 2

Marv Fjordbeck, Senior Assistant Counsel, said because the committee had not yet addressed Resolution No. 98-2645, it could choose to make the item inclusive and not treat it like an amendment.

Motion:

Councilor McFarland moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 98-2645 with the following amendment to Lines 83-85:
c. The nominating committee shall ~~meet to review the applications and forward~~ nominations for reappointments to the full Metro CCI. All new ~~applications~~ applicants with nominations approved by the Metro CCI shall be submitted to the Metro Council for approval and adoption by Resolution.

Vote:

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

Councilor Naito will carry Resolution No. 98-2645 to the full Metro Council.

Councilor McFarland asked if Dale Chamber's nomination will leave two vacancies on MCCI.

Ms. Withrow said MCCI still needs four members, as it recently received two resignations. She said there are two vacancies in District 4, and one vacancy each in Districts 5 and 7.

4. RESOLUTION NO. 98-2651, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING THE SECOND LARGEST CITIES OF CLACKAMAS AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES TO THE METRO POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair McLain said Resolution No. 98-2651 has been approved by the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). She said at the recommendation of legal counsel, the resolution names the positions rather than the cities, so that if populations change, it will be less difficult to adjust MPAC's membership.

Motion:

Councilor McFarland moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 98-2651.

Councilor McFarland said Resolution No. 98-2651 is long overdue.

Chair McLain asked staff to request that Resolution No. 98-2651 go to the full Metro Council on May 8. She said the resolution is not controversial.

Vote:

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

Chair McLain will carry Resolution No. 98-2651 to the full Metro Council.

5. ETHICS CODE UPDATE AND AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Fjordbeck updated the committee on the ethics code. He said the Executive Officer asked for comments on the ethics code from department directors, and the Office of General Counsel has evaluated those comments. He said legal counsel is making refinements to the original draft to clarify the committee's original intent and end some ambiguities. He said the ethics code should come back to committee shortly.

Councilor Naito asked Mr. Fjordbeck to explain one of legal counsel's recommendation concerning which gifts would be excluded.

Mr. Fjordbeck said the recommendation was prepared by Council staff, not the Office of General Counsel.

Meg Bushman, Council Analyst, said the recommendation to which Councilor Naito referred came from the Auditor.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, May 5, 1998

Page 3

Chair McLain said she reviewed all of the submitted comments and questions with Mr. Fjordbeck and Dan Cooper, General Counsel, on Friday. She said Mr. Cooper has carefully assessed all of the comments and will suggest technical amendments. She said the ethics code will return to committee once Mr. Cooper's recommendations are completed.

6. PLANNING FOR 1999 OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Chair McLain said the committee needs to set up a process to approach the next legislative body and its work. She said she asked Randy Ealy, Executive Analyst, and Executive Officer Mike Burton to share their ideas with the committee. She said the committee should discuss whether it would prefer a process in which the Executive Officer addresses the Governmental Affairs Committee or comes to the Council on an emergency basis.

Councilor Naito said one of the major issues in the next legislative session will be transportation.

Chair McLain said she will make sure that transportation is on the list of priority issues. She said Executive Officer Burton asked department directors to submit their own prioritized lists of issues.

Chair McLain invited Leo Kenyon, Senior Auditor, to give the Auditor's report while the committee waited for Mr. Ealy and Executive Officer Burton to arrive.

5. ETHICS CODE UPDATE AND AUDITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Kenyon spoke for Alexis Dow, Metro Auditor. He said she is very pleased with the committee's efforts to develop a firm and reasonable ethics code. He said Ms. Dow will continue to support the Council as it implements the ethics code.

Chair McLain thanked Mr. Kenyon for confirming that Ms. Dow still supports the current work.

6. PLANNING FOR 1999 OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Mr. Ealy said he has been asked to write a preliminary draft Request for Proposals (RFP) for hiring lobbyists for the 1999 Oregon Legislative Assembly, which he hopes to circulate as soon as possible. He said the first step will be to put together what is in draft format. He said Executive Officer Burton would give the Council and Council staff copies of the staff report and the proposed resolution. He said the Executive Officer has asked department heads for their legislative priorities for the legislative session. Mr. Ealy reviewed the proposed timeline. He said there is a desire to hire lobbyists earlier than usual as Metro is considering a more proactive legislative agenda this year. He said the resolution and RFP should be completed by May 22, 1998, and go to committee on June 1, 1998.

Chair McLain said the department directors' priorities could affect which lobbyists should be hired. She asked if the resolution packet will describe some of the important issues so that the Council can seek lobbyists who have been successful on those issues.

Mr. Ealy said he will include a prioritized issues list with the resolution and staff report. He said if the resolution is passed out of committee on June 1, it can go to Council on June 11, and the RFP can be mailed on Friday, June 12.

Executive Officer Burton said the first thing to consider is the budget, which is about \$60 ~~million~~ thousand. He said he would recommend the Council look at a stepped process: initially the Council may want to hire someone for a lesser amount of money, and then increase the amount as the session begins. He said the selection process and monitoring system used the past worked well. He said Metro has had a passive agenda in the past, but this session, the Council should consider lobbying the legislature for funding for growth management planning. He said he believes House Bill (HB) 2709 is essentially a mandate from the legislature, and there may be additional legislation this session that will propose similar requirements for industrial lands.

Executive Officer Burton said a second item to consider is the federal endangered species listing of steelhead trout. He said the steelhead listing is different from the Oregon Salmon Plan, because the coho salmon is not officially listed as an endangered species. He said the metro region will play a major role in the effort to protect steelhead

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, May 5, 1998

Page 4

trout because of the many major waterways that flow through the region. He said Metro has begun an internal process to address the problem, but it will need to work in concert with local governments to find funding for restoration projects in the next legislative session.

Chair McLain said the committee has mentioned transportation as a top priority. She said she agrees with Executive Officer Burton that the process used in the past two years worked well, and asked for a summary of her role as committee chair. She said the committee needs to determine how the Council will be notified if an emergency situation develops. She asked the Executive Officer and Ms. Bushman to write a memo to the Council explaining how this was done in the past.

Executive Officer Burton said that when the legislature is in session, it is always an emergency.

Councilor Naito said it is always a dilemma to have enough coordination for someone from the agency to speak for Metro quickly on an issue.

Executive Officer Burton said in past Metro used a phone-tree process. He said at times the Presiding Officer and Executive Officer spoke for the agency when it was not possible to contact all of the Councilors. He said he would outline the past processes and distribute his memo to the Council.

Chair McLain thanked Executive Officer Burton for his presentation.

7. COUNCILOR COMMUNICATIONS

Chair McLain thanked Ms. Bushman, Suzanne Myers, Council Assistant, and the rest of the Council staff for their help at the Local Partners' Forum. She said almost all of the Council staff attended the forums on April 29 and May 1. She said Councilors Naito, Jon Kvistad, and Ed Washington also attended.

Councilor Naito asked about the success of the forum on Saturday morning.

Chair McLain said Saturday's session went very well. She said there were participants from regions which have not been well represented at past Metro events, including Happy Valley, Wilsonville, West Linn, Milwaukie, Oregon City, Vancouver, Clark County and various school districts, such as David Douglas. She said there was good attendance of local partners, such as the Mayors of Gresham, Tualatin and Beaverton.

Councilor Naito said a possible item for the committee to address is the Portland Public School District's request for \$2 million from Metro. She said Executive Officer Burton has written a position paper about Metro's role in school funding. She said the issue is connected to governmental affairs as it concerns the public's lack of knowledge about how Metro is funded, its mission, and the restrictions on some of Metro's funds. She suggested sending a fact sheet to all of the schools jurisdictions explaining Metro's budget, with Executive Officer Burton's position paper as an attachment. She said she is concerned that the situation could snowball and other school jurisdictions in the region will include Metro in their budgets.

Chair McLain asked Ms. Bushman to send a copy of Executive Officer Burton's position paper on school funding to school superintendents, along with a note which says school districts attended the Local Partners' Forum, and the committee would be happy to discuss school funding, but it wants to make sure that school jurisdictions understand Metro's budget. She said the report from the Local Partners' Forum will be mailed to local jurisdictions and at least one citizen involvement group in each of the counties. She said the report should also probably be sent to school superintendents so that they know Metro is talking about school issues and they know where Metro thinks it does and does not have an opportunity to help.

Councilor Naito suggested sending a cover letter, a copy of Executive Officer Burton's position paper, a fact sheet about Metro, and a telephone number to call for more information. She recommended mailing the information packet to school superintendents and school board members so that they do not start including funding from Metro in their budgets.

GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, May 5, 1998

Page 5

Chair McLain asked Ms. Bushman to put together an information packet. She asked Ms. Steele to add the region's education service districts to the mailing list for the Local Partners' Forum report.

Ms. Woodruff asked if it would be appropriate to send a letter to Mel Gordon, Clark County Chair of Commissioners, to thank him for his positive testimony regarding a light rail connection to Clark County.

Chair McLain agreed. She said she would ask Councilor Washington to write Mr. Gordon and invite him to a Council Transportation Planning Committee meeting to talk about Clark County and light rail.

There being no further business before the committee, Chair McLain adjourned the meeting at 2:08 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Myers
Council Assistant

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NOTE: The minutes were revised at the March 18, 1998, Governmental Affairs Committee meeting at the direction of the chair. The correction appears at the bottom of page 3.

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 5, 1998

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

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION	DOCUMENT DATE	DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION	DOCUMENT NO.
Resolution No. 98-2645	4/29/98	Amendment to Resolution No. 98-2645, For the Purpose of Approving 1998 Bylaws Amendments for the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement	050498ga-01