

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES AND METRO OPERATIONS  
COMMITTEE**

Thursday, September 13, 2001

Council Annex

Members Present: Councilor Rex Burkholder (Chair), Councilor Carl Hosticka, Councilor Rod Park

Chair Burkholder called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

**1. Consideration of the Minutes**

The minutes of the July 26, 2001, Regional Facilities and Metro Operations Committee meeting were moved by Councilor Park and approved without revision by Councilors Park and Burkholder. Councilor Hosticka abstained from the vote due to his excused absence from the meeting.

**2. Resolution No. 01-3091, For the Purpose of Confirming the Appointments of Kevin Neary and Chuck Sellers as Members of the Visitor Development Fund, Inc. Board**

**Motion:** Councilor Rod Park moved Resolution No. 01-3091.

**Mike Burton**, Executive Officer, introduced the legislation to appoint two new members to the Visitor Development Fund, Inc. Board which was established by Metro and the City of Portland as part of the Oregon Convention Center expansion agreement. The Board's purpose is to plan, budget and administer the expenditure of some county tax revenues as specified in the Visitor Development Fund Services Agreement. Mr. Kevin Neary represents National Car Rental Companies; Mr. Chuck Sellers represents the Car and Truck Rental and Leasing Association. **Mr. Burton** recommended Council approval of this resolution.

**Vote:** Resolution No. 01-3091 was unanimously approved by the committee, with Councilor Rod Park carrying it forward to Council.

**3. Ordinance No. 01-915, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Section 4.01.050, and Revising Admissions Fees at The Oregon Zoo Effective January 1, 2002.**

**Motion:** Councilor Hosticka moved Ordinance No. 01-915.

**Mike Burton**, Executive Officer, made opening remarks stating that raising the zoo admission costs is always given serious consideration because of the zoo's family value. With completion of the light rail station, and continuation of no charge parking, as well as other increased costs in services to the zoo, it was determined to increase the gate admission by one dollar for adults and seniors, and fifty cents for youth 3-11 years, effective January 1, 2002. There are discussions underway with various entities including the City of Portland and Tri-Met, attempting to identify remedies to the current parking lot situation, including combining gate fees and transit fares, and instituting parking fees. **Councilor Hosticka** asked that another explanation for the fee increase be presented rather than paying for the cost of light rail transportation to the zoo. **Mr. Burton** responded that light rail expense is a legitimate cost because the zoo pays it yearly. **Kathy Kiaunis**, Assistant Zoo Director, explained the budget adopted in July was based on this fee increase, notwithstanding the numerous cost increases the zoo has experienced this year. Although the zoo is currently not operating at a profit or a breakeven basis, this increase is a

prudent attempt to increase revenue. By strengthening efforts with the Foundation and being more entrepreneurial, the zoo can slow its rate of economic decline. Since the zoo fees are still relatively low compared to similar family entertainment options, this increase is not expected to affect attendance. In answer to a question from Councilor Park, **Ms. Kiaunis** responded that with a zoo fee increase, the zoo Foundation transfers increase accordingly.

**Vote:** Ordinance No. 01-915 was unanimously approved. Councilor Burkholder will carry it to Council.

**4. Resolution No. 01-3102, For the Purpose of Appointing Christine Roth to the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement (MCCI)**

**Motion:** Resolution No. 01-3102 was moved by Councilor Hosticka.

**Cary Stacy**, Assistant to Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement, explained that Christine Roth was recommended by the Clackamas County Committee for Citizen Involvement to replace the vacant seat of Bill Merchant. Ms. Roth comes highly qualified and committee consideration was requested.

**Vote:** The committee unanimously approved Resolution No. 01-3102. Councilor Atherton or Councilor Hosticka will carry it to Council.

**HR Introduction and Dialogue/Worksession**

Those present: Lily Aguilar, Ruth Scott, Karol Ford, Sarah Follette, Cheri Yasami, and Tanya Collier.

**Chair Burkholder** asked the individuals to introduce themselves, then explained that the purpose of this department presentation was for the Councilors to become familiar with individual Metro departments. An outline had been provided to prompt thoughts and ideas.

**Lily Aguilar**, Human Resource Director, presented a written response to the outline provided by Councilor Burkholder, and it is attached and incorporated in the permanent record of this meeting. She reviewed the document in detail with the committee.

Ms. Aguilar highlighted several key points during her presentation:

- The Human Resources (HR) Department has developed sophisticated tracking systems so that data relating to the work of the department can be isolated, including number of recruitments, classification reviews, and labor relations activities (grievances, Equal Employment Opportunity complaints and advice/counsel) processed by department and Metro as a whole. This data forms the basis of formulating HR-related support services costs in addition to providing valuable information on trends and patterns in Metro's HR practices.
- While varying aspects of personnel administration are conducted at off-site facilities such as the zoo and MERC, as well as at Metro Central, the system is consistent with overall Metro personnel policies.
- Employees at Metro, regardless of whether they are represented or non-represented, receive comparable overall benefits.

Metro's HR department appears to be under-staffed in comparison to national trends on an HR-professional to employee ratio.

**3. Councilor Communications**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Mannhalter  
Council Assistant

Attachments to the record for the meeting of  
September 13, 2001

<b>Document Date</b>	<b>Document Description</b>	<b>Document No.</b>
September 13, 2001	Memorandum to Regional Facilities and Operations Committee from Lily Aguilar, re: Committee Dialogue	091301.01