

**MINUTES OF THE METRO COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT  
REGULAR COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, July 20, 2005  
Room 270

Members Present: Christine Roth (Chair), Norm Andreen, Eric Cook, Kathy Henton, JC Kizak, Jamie Magadovitz, Ed Rutledge (Vice Chair), Kate Schiele, Scott Siebert, Kate Warren, Skip White

Members Excused: None

Members absent: David Posalski

Also Present: Metro staff Gina Whitehill-Baziuk, Paul Vandenberg, Jan O'Dell, Cheryl Grant, Councilor Susan McLain, visitor Lisa Melyan.

**Call to order/Introductions & Welcome/Appointment of Timekeeper**

Chair Roth called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Members introduced themselves. Kathy Henton was appointed timekeeper.

**Legislative Report**

Randy Tucker, Legislative Affairs Manager, reviewed the Metro Council's legislative agenda and detailed the status of the bills. He explained that the council had come up with these priorities at work sessions before the start of the session. He pointed out that the major focus had been transportation and land use. There was committee discussion and questions. Mr. Tucker will provide a report of outcomes at the end of the session.

**Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**Approval of June 15, 2005 minutes**

**Motion/** Hearing no additions or deletions, Chair Roth declared the minutes approved as  
**Vote:** presented.

**Chair Report**

Chair Roth asked Scott Seibert to review his conversation with the Auditor's office about a possible public involvement audit. Ms. Dow told him she hoped to have a plan in the next 5-6 months. There was concern from the committee about that time frame as they had wanted the parks issues to be part of the audit. There was discussion regarding audit procedures and what kind of results they could expect. They hoped to have questions such as how an issue (i.e., the UGB) got to the ballot, did the public get involved soon into the process, was educational information provided to citizens, were the people who needed to be included actually involved. All of these questions are pertinent to any major Metro project, for instance, it would be very valuable for Metro to have an analysis of what went wrong with how Goal 5 was presented and how Nature in Neighborhoods is different and how it is working. There was committee consensus that although an auditor's work generally is reviewing a project after it is done, hindsight audits for public involvement are not politically convenient. Ed Rutledge commented that one way to encourage good public involvement, as is MCCI's charge, is a "quality circle"- design it, do it, look at it to decide if it went well and circle around to the next project adjusting the process from lessons learned. The auditor has the professional expertise to do a more scientific, and less political and emotional, study as to what worked and what didn't in a particular environment. He added that if they could get that kind of data, it

would be very helpful to MCCI as they make comment to council about how to do it better next time. Councilor McLain suggested providing a specific public involvement focus.

### **Councilor communication**

Councilor McLain talked about the bond measure celebration coming up in September, reported on the council retreat she had attended earlier in the day where they talked about refinements to the strategic plan and the budget process, and asked the committee to volunteer for a stint in the Metro booth at the upcoming fairs. She said her goal was to get into farmers' markets this fall with information about Metro. She talked about Reconnect 2040, formerly called The Big Look, which deals with next steps and how the public feels about the region's growth, good or bad, urban reserve issues, infrastructure funding, and all things dealing with how we grow and manage growth in the region. She discussed some new solid waste recycling programs and hazardous waste round-ups. There was a short discussion about membership issues and Councilor McLain said she would bring names of potential members for her district.

### **Department Liaison reports**

- Solid Waste and Recycling

Paul Vandenberg, Metro solid waste department, gave a short history for the new MCCI members and updated the committee on the St. Johns landfill closure process. The landfill was active from 1940 to 1991 and Metro then purchased the site from the City of Portland. A covering over the site was completed in 1996. The methane produced by the site is collected and sold and the money is put into an account that is used for the process. He said they are currently in the remedial investigation phase. There was discussion regarding the public involvement process in 2003. The department had worked with consultants to develop a plan with several elements. There was some initial concern from the MCCI as DEQ had the public involvement lead.

Jan O'Dell, community relations supervisor for Solid Waste, talked about the potential for siting a food composting facility in North Portland. She reported that earlier this year, the City of Portland and Metro had collaborated on a contract to get someone to collect food waste from large food places. Through a competitive process Cedar Grove, a company from Washington, won the bid. The contract calls for them to take waste to their Maple Valley facility where it will be composted. When the stream reaches 10,000 tons, they are required to site a facility locally. With 730 tons currently being collected, the company is already starting to look for a local site. The end product is Cedar Grove compost, which is available at local retail stores like Fred Meyer's. The committee asked about the public involvement. Ms. O'Dell responded that the practice is to offer public involvement at a point where we have a stake in the game. She said they had been to the Wilkes community near where the site is being considered and the Cedar Grove folks had flown some neighborhood representatives from Milwaukie to their Maple Valley facility to see how the operation works.

- Planning

None.

- Parks

Erin Cook, parks liaison, updated the committee on several parks issues. She was excited that the Providence Bridge Pedal's ten events in ten days celebration for their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary had

named Metro, the Zoo and regional parks as some of the ten best things that have happened in the region over the last ten years. Additional information about that will be posted on the website soon. She reported that the draft Cooper Mountain master plan will be released in August or September and there will be a chance for public comment then. She talked about the public tour of Smith and Bybee Lakes in August to show possible regional trail connections to the lakes. A public hearing about the preferred connections will be September 29<sup>th</sup>. She reported there is a long way to go before any official public involvement in Clackamas County's natural area off Sunnyside Road, which is entering the design phase this fall. She suggested they watch that closely.

#### **OCI Report**

Gina Whitehill-Baziuk, manager of the office of citizen involvement, talked about the parks bond celebration and distributed a list of stakeholder interviews that had taken place in preparation for forming the Lake Oswego to Portland Transit Alternatives study committee. She explained how that process had worked and invited MCCI to attend the first meeting the following week. She added that the Public Involvement Plan (PIP) had not yet been written and that she would come back for committee input when she was ready to do that.

#### **Region-wide public involvement standard/best practices committee update**

Mr. Hoffman was unable to attend the meeting due to previous commitments.

#### **Public comment/Roundtable**

None.

#### **Adjourn**

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Roth adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cheryl Grant  
MCCI staff