

MINUTES OF THE METRO COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT
REGULAR COMMITTEE
Wednesday, Oct. 5, 2005
Room 270

Members Present: Christine Roth (Chair), JC Kizak, Jamie Magdovitz, Erin Miller

Members Excused: Ed Rutledge, Skip White, Kathy Henton

Members absent: Scott Seibert, Norm Andreen, Kate Schiele, Kate Warren

Also Present: Malek Hill, Elizabeth Kennedy Wong, Joann Bowman, Eileen Argentina, Metro staff Gina Whitehill-Baziuk, Robin McArthur, Kate Marx, Cheryl Grant

Call to order/Introductions & Welcome/Appointment of Timekeeper

Chair Roth called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. Members introduced themselves. Christine Roth was appointed timekeeper.

Approval of agenda

The regionwide public involvement standards discussion was moved to a future agenda so the full committee can be included in the conversation.

Approval of Sept. 21, 2005 minutes

The September minutes were not considered due to lack of a quorum.

City of Portland Bureau Innovation Project (BIP) discussion

Elizabeth Kennedy Wong, neighborhoods and education policy manager for Mayor Potter and liaison to the Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI), talked about the City of Portland's twenty Bureau Innovation Projects. The goals of these projects are increasing the cultural awareness and diversity of the City of Portland's workforce, fostering greater inter-bureau collaboration, enhancing customer service, and making management more efficient.

She and Joanne Bowman and Eileen Argentina, also from the City of Portland, briefly described some of the projects they felt were most pertinent to MCCI's interests:

BIP #1, which is to develop a citywide strategic plan in collaboration with a community visioning process, will identify the shared values of all Portland citizens. The results of this process will be used as a platform to develop a citywide strategic plan, with a vision, mission statement and goals for bureaus to link to and develop performance measures. The strategic plan framework will focus the work of the City and provide a basis for measuring progress and to make further organizational changes within the City bureau structure.

The BIP #8 group will work to restructure Portland's neighborhood system and ONI to better represent a diverse range of perspectives and needs in the community governance process. They will conduct a complete assessment of ONI's mission, goals and organizational structure to reinvigorate citizen participation and involvement and support the City's goals of diversity and inclusiveness to build community capacity.

The goal of the BIP #9 group, public involvement, is to develop improved public engagement procedures. They will reconvene the Public Involvement Task Force and move forward many of its recommended actions to develop improved citywide public outreach goals and strategies. They will work across bureaus to ensure a coordinated public outreach effort, for both project-specific and citywide work efforts, and work to expand citizen involvement opportunities for appointment to City Boards and Commissions.

Ms. Bowman said the City's website has information about all of the BIPs. Ms. Argentina asked the MCCI to help get the word out about these projects. They said they do not want to duplicate what MCCI is working on now, but want to use the best from everybody so they hoped to be invited back for further discussion after they get more into their work and have something they can share and get additional input from MCCI. Ms. Argentina acknowledged that their biggest decisions have roots in Metro decisions, i.e. basic land use policies and transportation investment. There was definite interest from the committee to meet again. Kate Marx asked them to let the BIP groups know MCCI is working toward the same objectives.

BIP #9 update

Discussion of this agenda item was included in the previous item as Karen Withrow was unable to attend the meeting

OCI report

- **New Look overview**

Robin McArthur, regional planning division director, said her primary project is the new look at regional choices. She explained the history of the Region 2040 work that was done 10 years ago. The new population numbers show an accelerated rate of population growth. It is time to take a look at the plan to be sure it is going in the right direction. Between now and the end of the year, there are scoping and other issues to resolve. She asked the MCCI to give input to the planners. She distributed a chart showing the project timeline. She said this work will flow into the UGB work in 2008 although this is a very different question. She noted that it was agreed as a region that we wouldn't grow out, protecting farm and openspace and now we are asking how do we do better job of regional vision. The question is how do we grow, not where. After the council sees the draft plan, MCCI will get to see it. Ms. McArthur offered to come back to talk about the main strategies. Kate Marx urged the committee chair to report back formally to the council to give advice about what they like or don't like. Chair Roth commented that it is easy to see that 2040 is coming early if you look around.

Best Practice discussion -Staying in the loop

Gina Whitehill-Baziuk talked about the upcoming Community Planning Day. She reported that this year Metro did not participate due to budgetary reasons. She distributed posters to the committee for posting in their neighborhoods. Ms. Whitehill-Baziuk talked about the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) conference happening in Portland October 14-19. She said MCCI has purchased several passes for members to share so they can attend workshops of their choice. She distributed a sign-up sheet for the workshops.

Department Liaison reports

Erin Miller reported that Heather Nelson Kent is currently on maternity leave. She reported that the Smith and Bybee Trail Study public comment period is over and the web was friendly for comment.

Chair report

Chair Roth reported that she had met with Alexis Dow, the Metro Auditor, who is going to do an audit of MCCI and citizen outreach. The Auditor does not have a definite plan, but will probably start the audit in 2006. She will decide sometime in November what exactly she will do. This committee will have input into what the audit will contain. It will take 12-18 months to complete the audit. There was discussion of what kinds of things should be included. More discussion is needed from the whole committee regarding who wanted this audit and why.

Public comment/Roundtable

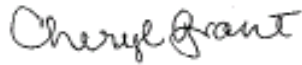
Jamie Magdovitz shared some booklets she obtained from the Multnomah County Citizen Involvement Committee. She said the Citizen Handbook is very helpful as were some of the others. Ms. Whitehill-Baziuk remembered that there had been a suggestion long ago that Metro expand the Recycling

Information Center to be a more general government information clearinghouse so regardless of who or what you were looking for, the call center could direct people to right place. JC Kizak said the City of Portland has a good information and referral line, (503) 823-4000. Ms. Magdovitz said she is helping to organize an environmental justice forum which they hope to hold mid-March. She is convening a group of students to talk about what they want to do for that forum. Ms. Whitehill-Baziuk recommended that she talk to someone at the University of Washington in Vancouver as they had done something similar last year. She gave Ms. Magdovitz contact info for some diversity based organizations that might help in the planning.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the committee, Chair Roth adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cheryl Grant
MCCI staff