Minutes of the Metro Committee for Citizen Involvement Regular Committee

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2007 Room 270

Members present: JC Kizak (Acting Chair), Judy Andreen, Hal Ballard, Chory Ferguson, Malek

Hall, John Kilian, Segeni Mungai, Skip White, Karen Wolfgang

Members absent: Gerritt Rosenthal

Members excused: Mark Knudsen, Virginia Bruce

Also present: Chris Welling and Judy Bluehorse Skelton, members in process,

Nick Azer, guest

Call to order, review of agenda, approval of Oct. 3, 2007 meeting minutes, introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. The agenda and minutes were approved. Karen Wolfgang was appointed timekeeper.

Diversity action team public involvement goals for the coming year

Pat Emmerson distributed copies of the Metro Diversity Action Team's diversity plan along with copies of the outreach strategies produced by the MCCI in June. She thanked the committee for their help with the final diversity plan report. She said would come back to the committee at a later date for additional suggestions and feedback for contacts as the team continues their work.

Introducing the new Website rollout

Janice Larson and Lia Waiwaiaole from the creative services department provided a short tour of the new Metro website which recently went live. A communications strategy handout for the web project explaining the improvements and new features was distributed. The committee suggested ways to present the January hard launch of the site to the public. Some members hoped to get more information about the work that went into the new site so Ms. Larson and Ms. Waiwaiole will return in January to talk about that.

Lake Oswego Transit and Trails Alternatives Analysis

Ross Roberts, transit program director, reviewed recommendations made by the Lake Oswego Project Advisory Committee (LOPAC) and detailed some of the issues raised by neighbors. There was discussion and questions about the recommendations. There was confusion and questions regarding whether or not a Public Involvement Plan (PIP) should have been provided to this committee at the beginning of the project. Mr. Roberts said Metro is indeed the lead agency for this project, and he will return to the committee in January with a PIP detailing the project.

What happens when public involvement goes bad

None.

Roundtable

Segeni Mungai reported on the work of the Openspaces audit committee of which he is a member, appointed by the council president. They are looking at where bond purchases are being made in the region.

Hal Ballard distributed information about the "And We Bike" safety campaign he is involved in with the Washington County Bicycle Transportation Coalition and the Bicycle Transportation Alliance. He has been making presentations to various groups in the region. He shared packets of information for committee members to share with others.

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Judy Andreen asked about the urban/rural reserves process. She wondered how those areas were going to be identified. Councilor Harrington is scheduled for the January meeting to discuss some of those issues and staff will look into getting a presentation about the issues as well. Other area CICs will be invited to attend the meeting, especially if a formal presentation about the reserves can be on the agenda.

JC Kizak talked about the City of Portland, Multnomah County and Clackamas County's 14th annual City/County Diversity Conference she had attended the previous day. She said it was excellent. She was, however, wondering why Metro has not been involved with this event. She was going to ask Pat Emmerson if she knew why Metro has not been involved. She noted two other similar conferences at Mt. Hood Community College and Portland Community College.

Chris Welling commented on the Eat Local challenge and asked if Metro was involved. It would be a good fit for the 2040 green building and sustainability goals and measurements.

Judy Bluehorse Skelton commented that the wellness policy for Portland Public Schools is already looking at that. As new schools are sited, they are looking at taking more affordable land, up against forests, etc., and looking to start growing gardens for cafeteria use as part of the local food source. She suggested Metro may want to look at that as they are preserving greenspaces. It is a potential partnership with schools holding large greenspaces. The committee agreed it felt like a good fit for Metro.

Skip White reported on an archeological dig taking place on Sauvie Island. Some teens from the Puget Sound area started excavating downstream from the bridge, finding Native American treasures along the river. There was quite a widespread interest in the dig and a team also came from Japan to do some excavating. He said four major tribes from around Oregon had come to oversee the project. The Japanese group has plans to return when they can find more funding. They were surprised to find lots of interesting artifacts that were similar to ones found in Japan.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl frant

Cheryl Grant MCCI staff