

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING	)	RESOLUTION NO. 93-1855
THE APPOINTMENT OF BERNARD	)	
FOSTER TO THE METROPOLITAN	)	Introduced by Rena Cusma, Executive
EXPOSITION-RECREATION	)	Officer
COMMISSION	)	

WHEREAS, The Metro Code, Section 6.01.030, provides that the Council confirms members to the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission; and

WHEREAS, The resignation of Ron Kawamoto created a vacancy on the Commission; and

WHEREAS, The Board of County Commissioners, Multnomah County, nominated Multnomah County resident Bernard Foster to fill the unexpired term of Ron Kawamoto; and

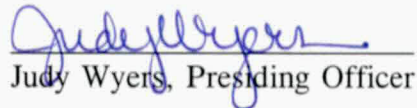
WHEREAS, Bernard Foster brings to the Commission a strong interest in public service, business and community affairs experience and is qualified to perform the duties and responsibilities of a Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, The Council finds that Bernard Foster has experience and is qualified to serve as a member of the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission, now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED,

That Bernard Foster is hereby confirmed for appointment as a member of the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission to complete the unexpired term which shall end January 15, 1996.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 28th day of October, 1993.

  
Judy Wyers, Presiding Officer

STAFF REPORT

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO.93-1855 FOR THE PURPOSE  
OF CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF BERNARD FOSTER TO THE  
METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION-RECREATION COMMISSION

Date: September 15, 1993

Presented by: Don Rocks

FACTUAL BACKGROUND

Mr. Ron Kawamoto, nominated by Multnomah County and subsequently appointed to the commission in January of 1992, submitted his letter of resignation earlier this year. His resignation was occasioned by a move out-of-state in connection with his acceptance of an employment offer in the Seattle area.

After due deliberation the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners has voted unanimously to forward the name of Bernard V. Foster for appointment and confirmation. Mr. Foster would complete the remaining portion of the Ron Kawamoto term which term shall end January 15, 1996.

The Executive Officer has interviewed Mr. Foster, is satisfied that Mr. Foster understands her perspective regarding the commission, past, present and future, and forwards his name to the Metro Council for consideration and confirmation.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

The Executive Officer places the name of Bernard Foster before the council for the purpose of confirmation to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Ron Kawamoto from the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission.



DAN SALTZMAN, Multnomah County Commissioner, District One

1120 S.W. Fifth Avenue, Suite 1500 • Portland, Oregon 97204 • (503) 248-5220 • FAX (503) 248-5440

August 25, 1993

AUG 26 1993

Rena Cusma  
Executive Officer  
Metro  
600 NE Grand Ave  
Portland OR 97232-2736

Dear Ms. ~~Cusma~~ <sup>RENA</sup>:

I am pleased to forward the County's unanimous nomination of Bernie Foster to be the county representative on MERC. Enclosed is a copy of the Board of County Commissioners Resolution nominating him for membership to that position.

Sincerely,

Dan Saltzman  
Multnomah County Commissioner, District 1

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Nominating )  
Bernard Foster for Membership ) RESOLUTION  
of the Metropolitan Exposition ) 93-276  
Recreation Commission )

WHEREAS Multnomah County is allotted one seat on the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission; and,

WHEREAS the Board of County Commissioners of Multnomah County is charged with nominating a candidate for that position; and,

WHEREAS that candidate must be a resident of Multnomah County and of the Metropolitan Service District; and,

WHEREAS that nomination must then be transmitted to the Executive Officer of the Metropolitan Service District.

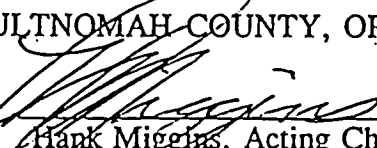
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners of Multnomah County nominate Bernard Foster, of 2337 North Williams, Portland, Oregon to fill Multnomah County's seat on the Metropolitan Exposition and Recreation Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this nomination be forwarded to the Executive Officer of the Metropolitan Service District for action of the Council.

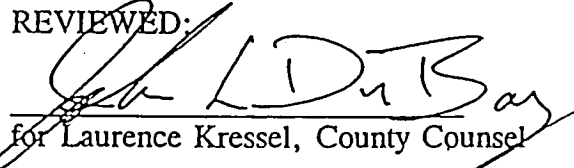


ADOPTED THIS 5TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1993

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR  
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

by   
Hank Miggins, Acting Chair

REVIEWED:

  
for Laurence Kressel, County Counsel

RECEIVED

JUN 1 1993



MULTNOMAH COUNTY OREGON CHAIR

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

INTEREST FORM FOR BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

In order for the County Chair to more thoroughly assess the qualifications of persons interested in serving on a Multnomah County board or commission, you are requested to fill out this interest form as completely as possible. You are encouraged to attach or enclose supplemental information or a resume which further details your involvement in volunteer activities, public affairs, civic services, published writing, affiliations, etc.

A. Please list, in order of priority, any Multnomah County boards/commissions on which you would be interested in serving. (See attached list.)

MERC

B. Name BERNARD V Foster

Address 4115 NE 19th

City PORTLAND State OR Zip Code 97211

Do you live in \_\_\_\_\_ unincorporated Multnomah County or  a city within Multnomah County.

Home Phone 503-281-4378

C. Current Employer The SKANNER NEWS

Address 2337 N. WILLIAMS

City PORTLAND State OR Zip Code 97227

Your Job Title publisher

Work Phone 287-3562 (Ext) 501

Is your place of employment located in Multnomah County? Yes  No \_\_\_\_\_

D. Previous Employers Dates Job Title

The FACTS NEWS 1968-75 ad Mgr.

USAF

E. Please list all current and past volunteer activities.

Name of Organization	Dates	Responsibilities
state Fire Marshal Bd	June 89 - June 91	Bd member
state BANKING Bd	1989 - present	Bd member
Portland TAXES Review (CSO) COMBINE SEWAGE OVERFLOW	1993 - present (1993 - )	Bd member - rate increase, ONLY

F. Please list all post-secondary school education.

Name of School	Dates	Responsibilities
BREMERTON CC	1969	
Seattle C/C	1971	
Bellingham C/C	1972	

G. Please list the name, address, and telephone numbers of two people who may be contacted as references who know about your interests and qualifications to serve on a Multnomah County board/commission.

KEN POUND	206-272-7498	Seattle
Larry Wilson	239-7237	Portland

H. Please list potential conflicts of interest between private life and public service which might result from service on a board/commission.

I see NONE at this present TIME

I. Affirmative Action Information

M / BK A  
sex/facial ethnic background

Birth date: Month 12 Day 22 Year 40

My signature affirms that all information is true to the best of my knowledge and that I understand that any misstatement of fact or misrepresentation of credentials may result in this application being disqualified from further consideration or, subsequent to my appointment to a board/commission, may result in my dismissal.

Signature Bernard W Foster Date 6/19/93

BIOGRAPHY OF BERNARD V. FOSTER  
PUBLISHER, THE SKANNER NEWSPAPER

Bernie Foster was born in East St. Louis, Mo. Dec. 22, 1940. He attended Catholic schools through tenth grade and graduated from Lincoln Senior High School in East St. Louis in 1961.

After serving five years in the U.S. Air Force, which included a tour of duty in Vietnam, Foster moved to Seattle, Wash. He attended the Western Washington University for two years, taking classes in journalism. During that time he served as an intern for The Facts Newspaper in Seattle. While working part-time for the newspaper, Foster assisted with the start-up of a subsidiary of The Facts in Tacoma, Wash.

In 1975 Foster moved to Portland, Oregon and founded The Skanner Newspaper. He envisioned the newspaper as a vehicle to effectively express views different from those already being presented in the community. The publication would take on hard issues affecting Black and other minorities and offer positive role models for youth by highlighting individual accomplishments -- reporting stories that might not otherwise be covered by the media.

That communications commitment proved a successful avenue of growth for the young paper. The Skanner Newspaper, which opened in a three-room storefront on NE Union and Wygant with a two-member staff, grew to a staff of nine writers, photographers, typesetters, paste-up and ad sales personnel.

In 1983 the paper moved to expanded facilities at 2337 N Williams and currently employs a staff of 12 with a statewide circulation of over 20,000. In 1981 Foster established a sister newspaper, The Northwest Dispatch in Tacoma, Wash. The Dispatch currently employs a staff of three with a circulation of 7,000.

In addition to its weekly publication, The Skanner currently produces five special issues throughout the year -- Martin Luther King Jr., Black History, Career Guide, Minority Business Enterprise, Fire Prevention, and an Anniversary edition. Also, supplements to commemorate special events are added to yearly production.

Publisher Foster and wife Bobbie Dore Foster, the paper's editor, have sponsored many community functions. These include the Northeast Neighborhood Fun Run, the Terry Porter Basketball Clinic, the Ebony Rose Ski Club Annual Tennis Tournament, The Skanner Music Awards, Thanksgiving Food Drives, the annual Minority Business Enterprise Awards and Reception and the Annual Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast at which two Drum

Major for Justice Awards are awarded.

Foster initiated a petition in 1987 to seek community support to rename one of Portland's major thoroughfares in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. He collected over 3,000 names which he turned over to the City Council at one of its meetings. The project is currently in committee process with a proposal going before Portland City Council in the fall of 1988 for a renaming of Union Avenue for Dr. King.

To commemorate Black History Month in a meaningful and graphic way, in 1984 Foster developed an agreement with Portland's bus service, Tri-Met, to display exterior signs on the buses during February. The signs depicted an image of Martin Luther King Jr. and the slogan, "It all started on a bus." They commemorated the beginning of the civil rights movement when, in 1955, Rosa Parks protested a Montgomery, Ala. law banning Blacks from taking a seat in the front of a bus.

In 1988, during Black History Month, The Skanner arranged a month-long display in Portland's City Hall of the nationally-acclaimed oil portrait exhibit, "Gallery of Greats: Black Journalists -- Then and Now," in conjunction with The Miller Brewing Company of Milwaukee, Wisc.

In 1985, the Fosters represented Portland in a visit to its sister city, Sapporo, Japan. They were welcomed by Sapporo's mayor and other dignitaries during their week's stay.

During its 13 years of operations, the newspaper has earned many honors. The following are the most recently awarded. In 1988 The Skanner received the Award of Excellence for outstanding media contributions from United Way of Columbia/Willamette. In 1986 the West Coast Black Publishers Association named Foster Publisher of the Year for outstanding leadership and The Skanner received first place awards for news coverage, and best entertainment section, among other awards. The paper also received the Community Organization Award from the Oregon Human Development Corporation.

National and local government officials have also recognized community efforts of The Skanner. President Ronald Reagan, saluted the newspaper on its 10th anniversary in 1985, noting the newspaper "has proved to be an asset to the people of Portland and an additional source of support for the freedoms that all Americans cherish." Gov. Neil Goldschmidt, during October's 1988 Minority Enterprise Week, said The Skanner kept him alert to minority enterprise developments and was a champion of change and a counter to bias and racism. The publication has also received commendations from Oregon Sen. Bob Packwood and Portland Mayor Bud Clark.

In efforts to keep involved with the Northwest's diverse community, Foster serves on the Business Committee on Regional Transportation Priorities, The Oregon State University Board of



Visitors for Minority Affairs, the Portland Chamber of Commerce  
Citizens Crime Commission, secretary for the West Coast Black  
Publishers Association, co-founder of River East Progress, Inc.,  
Portland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors,  
and co-chairperson of Golden Pacific Airlines. He is past  
president of the Oregon Business League, the Northeast Business  
Booster and the Inner Northeast YMCA.

The Fosters, who reside in Northeast Portland, have four  
children, Monique, Monica, David and James and two grandchildren.

1968

## REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

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RESOLUTION NO. 93-1835, CONFIRMING THE APPOINTMENT OF BERNARD FOSTER TO THE METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION-RECREATION COMMISSION

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Date: October 13, 1993      Presented by: Councilor Washington

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION: At its October 6, 1993 meeting the Regional Facilities Committee voted 3-0 to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 93-1835. Voting were Councilors McFarland, Hansen, and Washington. Councilors Gardner and McLain were excused.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION/ISSUES: Executive Assistant Don Rocks presented the staff report and introduced Mr. Bernard Foster. Mr. Foster said it is important to communicate, and that he will do his best. He stressed the importance of building consensus.

Councilor McFarland asked Mr. Foster when he would be available to appear before the Council, and Mr. Foster said he would be out of town on the next Council meeting date. Councilor McFarland asked Mr. Foster if he would have the time to perform the duties of a MERC Commissioner. Mr. Foster said the out-of-town commitment had been made a year ago.

Councilor McFarland asked Mr. Foster how he would work out the dichotomy of representing two constituencies: that of the region as a whole and of the specific area he represents. Mr. Foster said he didn't believe in regional government at the beginning, but he would abide by the voters' decisions. He added that we all have personal biases that must sometime be set aside in the interest of the group.

Councilor Hansen asked Mr. Foster how he would separate his role at MERC with his role as a newspaper publisher. Mr. Foster said he has faced that issue before, and he is able to separate executive sessions and confidentiality from public sessions.

Councilor Washington asked Mr. Foster for his views on MERC's role in the region and its role in the district he represents. Mr. Foster said he understood that MERC's role is changing, but said he would need to learn more about that. He said MERC is taking on more of a business role in trying to make its facilities more profitable. He said his strength will be to make business decisions and bring a business perspective to MERC.