

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONFIRMING) RESOLUTION NO. 19-5035
APPOINTMENTS TO THE METRO)
COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY) Introduced by Council President Lynn
Peterson

WHEREAS, in compliance with Metro’s Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (“Strategic Plan”) the Metro Council created the Committee on Racial Equity (“CORE”), approved its charter and confirmed the appointment of its two founding co-chairs on March 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council President appointed and the Metro Council confirmed selected applicants consisting of members of the public who have a commitment to advancing racial equity and the skills, knowledge and lived experience to assist Metro Council and staff on the implementation and evaluation of the Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, Metro Code Chapter 2.19.030 requires that the Metro Council confirm appointments made by the Council President to Metro’s Advisory Committees; and

WHEREAS, the original CORE members terms have expired and certain CORE members desire to be re-appointed for either one or two year terms so that the terms of CORE members are staggered for future CORE membership; and

WHEREAS, the Metro Council President has re-appointed the members listed in Exhibit A attached to this Resolution; now therefore

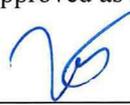
BE IT RESOLVED that the appointments by the Metro Council President to the CORE are hereby confirmed to serve for either one or two year terms, effective immediately, as provided in the attached Exhibit A.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 26th day of September, 2019.



Lynn Peterson, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Carrie MacLaren, Metro Attorney

Exhibit A to Resolution No. 19-5035 For the Purpose of Confirming Appointments to the Metro Committee on Racial Equity

Reappointments to Metro's Committee on Racial Equity

September 12, 2019

Table 1. Metro CORE members recommended for reappointment.

Name	Joined CORE	Second term length	End of term
Sharon Gary-Smith	2017	1 - year	September, 2020
Patricia Kepler	2017	2 - years	September, 2021
Martine Coblentz	2017	2 -years	September, 2021
Maria Caballero Rubio	2017	1 - year	September, 2020
Laura John	2017	2 -years	September, 2021
Katie Sawicki	2017	1 - year	September, 2020
Karla Hernandez	2017	1 - year	September, 2020
Kari Herinchx	2017	2 -years	September, 2021
Effie Stansbery	2017	1 - year	September, 2020
Duncan Hwang	2017	1 - year	September, 2020
Dele Oyemaja	2017	2 - years	September, 2021

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-5035, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REAPPOINTING MEMBERS OF METRO'S COMMITTEE ON RACIAL EQUITY

Date: Thursday, September 12, 2019
Department: Office of the COO – Diversity,
Equity and Inclusion
Meeting Date: Thursday, September 26,
2019

Prepared by: Sebrina Owens-Wilson, 503-
797-1774,
Presenter(s) (if applicable): N/A
Length: N/A

ISSUE STATEMENT

Resolution No. 19-5035 requests the reappointment of eleven of the original members of Metro's Committee on Racial Equity (CORE). Members of CORE have completed their first two-year term. This action will prevent full turnover of the committee, and will allow members to serve an additional one or two year term. Metro's DEI team is currently recruiting new committee members to fill vacant seats and will return to Council in November 2019 for formal appointments.

ACTION REQUESTED

The Metro Council reappoints eleven members of Metro's Committee on Racial Equity for one-year or two-year terms, according to the committee member's preference.

IDENTIFIED POLICY OUTCOMES

CORE members have recommended allowing members to serve either a one-year or two-year term for their second term on CORE. Reappointing CORE members to both one-year and two-year terms allows for overlap between existing and new members and supports the continuation of institutional knowledge and capacity. This ensures the CORE can continue to fill their chartered role in advising Metro council and staff on the implementation of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. It establishes staggering terms and allows the DEI team to create a new annual cycle of CORE recruitment and appointment that maintains an engaged and active Committee.

POLICY QUESTION(S)

N/A

POLICY OPTIONS FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER

N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Staff recommends that the Metro Council reappoints eleven current members of Metro's Committee on Racial Equity for one-year or two-year terms. The members recommended for reappointment, and their requested term length, are detailed in Exhibit A of Resolution No. 19-5035.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT & FRAMING COUNCIL DISCUSSION

BACKGROUND

The CORE is a committee that was created and chartered by the Metro Council in 2017 to advise the Council and staff in advancing racial equity to fulfill the purpose of good government, which is to serve all people effectively and create greater opportunities for people of color to thrive in the region. The CORE is an ongoing, standing Metro committee, whose main purpose is to:

- provide input and advice for the successful implementation of the Strategic Plan to Advance Racial Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (Strategic Plan),
- provide community oversight and opportunities for Metro to have greater accountability to the community on the implementation of the Strategic Plan
- communicate Metro's progress in implementing the Strategic Plan, and
- assist Metro staff in the creation and implementation of the Strategic Plan evaluation.

According to CORE by-laws members are appointed to a two year term and are eligible to be reappointed to a second term. .

ATTACHMENTS

Short biographies for CORE members seeking reappointment are included in Attachment 1 to the Staff Report on Resolution No. 19-5035.

Attachment 1 to the Staff Report on Resolution No. 19-5035 For the Purpose of Confirming Appointments to the Metro Committee on Racial Equity

Committee on Racial Equity

Member reappointment – member biographies

Sharon Gary-Smith

Affiliation: Philanthropic consultant

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: I have spent one half century deeply engaged in community organizing, agency capacity building, women and families advocacy and organizational leadership focused on building a more humane, equitable and inclusive society for all.

Patricia Kepler

Affiliation: Multnomah County

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: Equity is essential if we are going to create a truly inclusive community that welcomes everybody to the table. On a personal level I have been forced to sit on the sidelines or be excluded from participation because of barriers created by external sources. Equitable policy makes sure that everyone has the opportunity to participate.

Martine Coblentz

Affiliation: Clackamas County Resolution Services

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: I have been serving on Clackamas County Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council. I served as chair, co-chair and member over the past 4 years. I have given training on working with interpreters, training on equity issues in mediation/facilitation, working with immigrants and refugees, etc. I have given these equity training as a private contractor throughout the State. I believe my work is an asset to the CORE as well since I work in conflict resolution. Much of the processes used in my work is very much in line with Equity and Diversity work.

Maria Caballero Rubio

Affiliation: Centro Cultural de Washington County

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: I have worked in government and systems change for most of my career and believe that true change happens when the community is vested in in the process. I understand the importance of balancing the government’s desire for efficiency and the community’s need for inclusion; and I believe that Metro has found that balance.

Laura John

Affiliation: Education Northwest

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: Throughout the course of my career I have worked to address racial equity issues that impact Indian Country in the areas of education, public policy, access to healthcare, federal and state budgets, and family well-being. I grab every opportunity to educate others about the importance and value of including American Indian/Alaska Native people in equity discussions.

Katie Sawicki

Affiliation: Equity in Action Consulting and Oregon Health Equity Alliance

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: I provide support to organizations, coalitions, community groups seeking to advance racial justice work. Most often, I do so through policy and campaign development, policy and education materials, building organizing capacity, or organizational development that centers on communities most impacted by economic and health inequities. I believe there are so many inspiring racial justice leaders and organizations in town with great ideas in the works; I try to provide whatever support is needed to help that work cross the finish line into movement building and social change.

Karla Hernandez

Affiliation: Adalante Mujeres

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: I have been a community organizer and community leader, through my different roles I have been able to create safe and welcoming spaces for communities to come together, share experiences, and leadership training. Through both professional and volunteer work, I have worked with communities of all backgrounds. I am also someone that identifies as an immigrant, and I understand many of the challenges and barriers that come with the label.

Kari Herinchx

Affiliation: Washington County

Pronouns: she/her/hers

About: I have worked in higher education as the divisional/institutional lead on diversity and inclusion; and city government focusing equity policies. Currently I work for Washington County overseeing the County's broad public involvement efforts that includes policy development and guidance on issues of equity and inclusion. I grew up in a rural area of Oregon and come from a large farming family.

Effie Stansbery

Affiliation: Mercy Corps Northwest

Pronouns: they/them/theirs

About: My experiences have been varied – from Cleveland to North Carolina to New Mexico to the beautiful Pacific NW. I have lived and spent time in most major regions of the United States- each bringing a different perspective to the conversation on racial equity. In addition, I have spent my entire short career working with people to achieve their goals in a social work setting.

Dele Oyemaja

Affiliation: Training Partnership at SEIU 503

Pronouns: he/him/his

About: In my work, I see a lot of injustice in the criminal justice system pertaining to numbers of offenders who are people of color being released back to society. In addition to my day job, I also volunteer as Chairman of Africa House Advocacy Council. My work pertains to crafting various policies that address inequities and various form of challenges that immigrants, newly arrived and people of color face in their daily undertakings.

Duncan Hwang

Affiliation: Asian Pacific American Network of Oregon

Pronouns: he/him/his

About: I've been proud to partner with Metro in advancing racial equity through my work at APANO in a number of ways: (1) As an equity thought partner, I was engaged with Metro on the Racial Equity strategy through creation of the Equity Framework Report and in community engagement for the Racial Equity Strategy. (2) As a community stakeholder, I have participated in bringing new voices to the decision-making process through planning processes such as Metro's Powell Division High Capacity Transit process or in planning out the Metro owned Jade District development as part of its transit oriented development program. (3) As a grantee, our organization receives funding to support programmatic work such as connecting API youth with nature through Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods program. These experiences provided insight on the impact Metro can have on our communities and have informed his work on the CORE.