



Metro

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Meeting minutes

Meeting: CORE Meeting
Date: Thursday, Mar. 21st, 2019
Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Place: MRC, 600 NE. Grand Ave., Portland, OR 97232

Attendees

Co-Chairs: Patricia Kepler, Dele Oyemaja

CORE Members: Martine Coblentz, Laura John, Katie Sawicki, Effie Bustamante, Karla Hernandez, Sharron Gary-Smith, Shweta Moorthy,

MERC Commissioners:

CORE Liaisons: Metro Councilor Gonzalez

Metro staff: Raahi Reddy, Melissa Palavecino

Guests: Alice Froehlich, Heather Nelson Kent

Absent: Donna Maxey, Kari Herinckx, Maria Caballero Rubio,

Welcome and Overview of the day

Before the meeting started CORE members who attended the Facing Race Conference or the Race Class Narrative conversation were asked to share some highlights.

Martine was energized to get ERG's in Multnomah County. Katie mentioned that that the conference wasn't white centered making the experience more powerful. Sharon shared her concern

Public comment – Members of the public

No public comment was offered.

Parks and Nature: Engagement with Greater Portland's Urban Indigenous communities (Alice Froehlich, Metro Parks and Nature)

During the presentation being more respectful of the indigenous communities Metro worked with was mentioned. A definition of what it meant to be more respectful was asked for, as well as how it was asked of Parks and the procedures done to ensure it would happen. Alice responded that no formal ask was made by the community nor was she given any training. Alice recognized the historically difficult and traumatic relationship government has had with the Indigenous communities and entered those spaces knowing

that. She also stated that it was important to understand how the community asked for things and to make sure that METRO understood what was being said. Checking in with the community often and not just when Metro needed something was vital to creating trust. Raahi flagged the need to have training around this intention.

A member attested to how rare Alice's approach to the Indigenous community was, that Alice really put in the time to build that trust between herself and the community. Laura went on to explain the significance of the Willamette falls to many indigenous communities and the lamprey restoration work being done there.

Alice was asked how she was able to prioritize what information needed to get back to Metro to make everyone happy. Alice's reply was that not everyone could be made happy however by including more community members, taking action on community asks (for example advocating for longer timelines on projects), asking for help around reviewing documents, giving continual updates and regular check-ins with community members all help.

Review of Draft Memo and feedback process on policy issues

Members reviewed the draft memo through a projected power point personation.

In the key feature section members wanted to add a point that stated they would provide input to policies that may arise. Members also wanted to convey the intersectionality, trust and need for space that communities call for in the key features.

Under matters for CORE to consider, members wanted to bring forward a way to evaluate past initiatives as well as current ones. Members also discussed a having a more formal way to receive information from departments as well as a concise way for members to give guidance to those departments. Members talked about using something similar to what LA County's health equity tool and design it to have the five goals. They feel this tool could help elevate the good work Metro is doing, and strengthen the intention of the five goals.

When talking about the written and oral reports CORE will provide to council, members brought up that they would like to also see grants that are given out by Metro. So that they can also give feedback on the grants process and the DEI implication they may or may not have. Members also mentioned they would like to see new electeds cycle through CORE. Another topic members felt was important was that of giving departments a cohesive answer. Members didn't want department representative to leave meeting with feedback from individual members. Members discussed possibly having a formal check-in before the department rep. leaves or formulating a response and sending it later. Members' circled

background to the need of having clear asks from departments and also making sure that the recommendations given and their outcomes will be tracked.

A summary of actions and recommendations at the end of the meeting was suggested so that members could agree or discuss further. It was also mentioned that the co-chairs could possibly be the ones to flag those actions and recommendations as they came up in meetings. Lightening up the agenda in order to accommodate time for this was offered. The idea of having recommendations approved at meetings instead of minutes was put forth as well. A time line of having department presentations and discussions in one meeting and decisions and a cohesive answer would be produced the next meeting was proposed.

Patricia moves to accept the Jan. 26th 2019 Retreat minutes, no changes were requested.

Katie seconded the motion

Shweta abstains due to not being at the retreat

CORE members voted to adopt minutes

*CORE member recruitment to be discussed further at next meeting

Adjourn