



BUDGET WORK GROUP SUMMARY NOTES

January 22, 2007

Attendees

Amalia Alarcon, Richard Bixby, Cece Hughley-Noel, Sylvia Bogert, Tom Schaper, Doretta Schrock, Stephanie Reynolds, Carol Justice, Mary Ann Schwab, Mark Sieber, Elizabeth Kennedy-Wong, Eric King, Chris Sheesley, Kay Fuller, Judith Mowry, Michael Kersting, Vickie Hersen, Liesl Wendt, Bob Tomlinson, Ron Laster, Bob Ueland, Tanya Stagray, and Ray Espana.

Action items & key decisions

A series of presentations by key sub-committee members helped participants gain insights into the discussions and conclusions of subcommittees. The following is a brief outline of some of these presentations and the questions/comments from the BAC.

Increase Engagement of Under-Represented Groups

The three recommendations of this subcommittee were explained: a) Portland Cultural Congress, b) Accommodations fund for translation and child care services, and c) Increase DCL initiatives.

The following are examples of the BAC-wide discussion:

- One of the strengths of the cultural congress concept is that it will help people organize within their own community and become more empowered to build bridges to others in the future.
- There is value in both building on initiatives from last year and creating new initiatives that can be enhanced in future years.
- The sub-committee was asked if they considered what they might also recommend if given additional funding. The group limited itself to the fiscal constraints available.
- Eric requested any additional information from this team as he develops this narrative.
- A question about past expenditures versus the current budget in this area.
- Interest in whether other partners have been invited. There has not been time yet to discuss who else might benefit or contribute.

New ONI-Citywide Service or Program / ONI-Citywide Infrastructural Support

The six recommendations of this subcommittee were: a) Additional Crime Prevention Staffing, b) Marketing Campaign, c) ONI Infrastructure/Safety, d)

Implementation of Public Involvement Standards, e) Public Involvement Database, f) Continued funding of Small Business Program.

The following are examples of the BAC-wide discussion:

- There are three additional crime prevention staff recommended and these would align with select precincts boundaries. This would result in additional staff in both North and Northeast Portland where they are most needed.
- There would also be increased funds to handle the increased supervisory and administrative support. Overtime was also taken into consideration.
- The marketing campaign would cover branding.
- The Information and Referral database is archaic and would be upgraded.
- The Mayor has a special interest in the implementation of Public Involvement Standards.
- The Public Involvement Database would stretch across the entire city government so there would be no more duplicate lists and the information they contained would be updated. This position would work internally across the bureaus and with the community to address their questions. The likelihood of partnerships across bureaus for the database was also emphasized.
- There was a clarifying question about ONI paying rent to house staff.
- A question about the accuracy of the figure in the database conversion project. It was highlighted that this is an accurate number based on actual estimates from the Bureau of Technology Services.
- The \$7,000 figure under "ONI Infrastructure/Safety also covered \$1,000 for emergency kits.
- Was the upgrade an ongoing cost or one time expense? The upgrade is a one time cost, as is the marketing campaign.

Neighborhood-Community Organization Capacity Building / Community Partner Infrastructure Support

The six recommendations of this subcommittee were: a) Additional Coalition Staffing Resources, b) Complete Insurance Coverage for Neighborhood Coalition Offices, c) Neighborhood Communication- Newsletters, d) Neighborhood Communication- Electronic, e) Increase Neighborhood Grants Program, and f) Contingency Fund for Safety Upgrades.

The following are examples of the BAC-wide discussion:

- The subcommittee agreed that the Coalitions are under staffed. More resources might be used to recruit more staff or increase current staff to "living wages."
- The insurance coverage last year left a funding gap. This recommendation would be a sufficient amount.

- Communications tools such as hard copy newsletters and electronic announcements are critical.
- A suggestion was made to increase the neighborhood grants program and broaden the criteria to do more for community. Sub-committees could oversee and direct how the money would be spent.
- There may be value in a funding formula to determine how money to Coalitions would be distributed. This would have to happen, perhaps through a subcommittee effort, after the budget has been submitted.

The following items were flagged as potentially needing more refinement as staff attempts to write up the proposals.

Portland Cultural Congress

Additional Coalition Staffing Resources

Neighborhood Communication – Newsletters

Neighborhood Communication – Electronic

Other items

- Eric described the submittal of an advanced summary of current and additional packages to the Mayor. He highlighted this handout to participants and the new items such as: a) community policing, b) citywide service program, c) residential siting and others.
- \$50,000 for a half time performance tracking system was questioned and then explained as a place holder figure.
- A question about a broader look and whether there had been discussion about whether to eliminate any programs, positions, etc. This was a task undertaken last year.
- The turnover of coalition staff, need for a continuum of good staff and to increase their pay was shared as an ongoing concern.
- There was some expression of appreciation for fact that there is, after many years, a plan to deal with the concern raise above.
- There was a clarifying question about the number of new FTE that would be created within ONI. The total is 6.9 FTE.
- Monday, January 29, there will be a presentation on the budget to Mayor. Cece Hughley-Noel, Ann Dufay and Mary Ann Schwaab volunteered to attend.
- During the second week in March (approximately), Amalia would like to have volunteers to go before the Commissioner teams.
- The Mayor wants to ensure that any budget is backed by genuine community support.
- The list of projects for future consideration was developed through the work of the sub-committees and this information would be collected and distributed for BAC members to see.
- Items were ranked by the entire group using a color coding system. While all ideas are being submitted, the prioritization will be useful in the event that ONI is asked to cut back on the entire scope of the budget request.

Next Meeting

February 12, 2007, 5:30-8:30PM.

In-Accord Inc will continue to serve as facilitator.

Agenda Items will include:

- Planning for conversations with Commissioners
- The results of ONI meeting with the Mayor
- Strategizing about how to tell our story and present a narrative on our budget packages