

City of Portland - Office of Neighborhood Involvement
Bureau Advisory Committee (BAC) Summary Notes
April 12, 2010

In Attendance:

Sylvia Bogert (SWNI), April Burris (North Tabor), Betsy Coddington (RNW), Anne Dufay (SEUL, BAC Co-Chair), Donita Fry (NAYA), Lisa Reed Guarnero (CIO), Tom Schaper (Ashcreek NA, SWNI), Mark Sieber (W/NW), Alison Stoll (CNN), Bob Ueland (Hollywood NA, CNN)

ONI Staff: Afifa Ahmed-Shafi (NRC), Amalia Alarcón de Morris, Amy Archer, Kelly Ball (CP), Michael Boyer (Labor/CP), Celeste Carey (CP), Nickole Cheron (NRC), Brian Hoop (NRC), Paul Leistner (NRC), Stephanie Reynolds (CP)

Other City Staff: Tim Crail (Office of Commissioner Fritz),

Budget Update

Amalia gave a brief budget update, thanking everybody who attended the March 31st budget work session with Council. The feedback was positive at the session, with good questions and comments from Council and community representatives. The Mayor's proposed decisions are scheduled for release on April 30th.

There is a projected budget shortfall for the City in the current year. Personnel expenses have been higher than usual. With fewer vacancies there isn't the typical salary savings from prior years. Bureau budgets do not include cost of living increases for staff, as these can often be absorbed within the budget with position vacancies. The City has a compensation set-aside that general fund bureaus may request if their personnel expenses exceed the base budget. The amount set-aside for ONI is approximately \$80,000. ONI would not have to take a "cut" unless the bureau needed to request the compensation set-aside funds. In most years ONI has not had to request the compensation set-aside, but with personnel expenses this year the bureau would have requested those funds. If requested, then ONI would need to take a budget cut over the next 15 months to make up for those funds. ONI management is still evaluating the current year budget and hoping to be able to make cuts internally in order to avoid requesting the funds.

Participants asked about timing for sending support letters and email regarding the budget and the group confirmed that now is the appropriate time – prior to the Mayor's proposed decisions at the end of April. The group encouraged people to include personal stories in the letters.

Portland Plan

Afifa Ahmed-Shafi gave a brief overview of ONI's work with the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability (BPS) for the Portland Plan Phase II workshops. The Mayor wants equity to be a big component of the workshops. There are 9 action areas and equity was attached to several, and there is a recognition that it goes across all of the areas. BPS has entered an interagency agreement with ONI to help design the equity component of the workshops including overall design, lead facilitator training (10-15 volunteers), and provide feedback on the approach.

Key ideas discussed:

- Drawing upon existing community documents
- Introduce up-front
- Model it in workshops.
- Give credit to partners doing work on equity in our community. May be a good opportunity to have them give a presentation on their work relating to equity.
- Ensure facilitators are comfortable with an equity conversation – coaching
- Give an example of inequity in an action area and give a real problem to work on as an exercise to help understand the concept in relation to the plan.
- Want people walking away with understanding that equity lens helps elevate the standard of living for everyone.

Workshops start in 2 weeks and the plan is to be done by the end of the calendar year.

Mission Goals and Values

Amy Archer provided an updated draft of the Office of Neighborhood Involvement Mission/Goals/Values including changes suggested at the prior meeting. The group reviewed the document and suggested a few additional minor edits.

The group agreed to adopt the revised Mission/Goals/Values with the minor changes discussed during the meeting. The final version is available online at <http://www.portlandonline.com/oni/index.cfm?c=29128>.

One member stated that the 4 overall values are the key and are not likely to change, but the sub-bullets may change to better explain as issues arise.

Announcements/General

- The Association for Portland Neighborhood Business Associations (APNBA) is recruiting an Executive Director. It is a good opportunity for somebody with business experience and community organizing experience.

Future Agenda items:

- Budget check in – where we are

- Performance metrics – review
- Standards
- Public Involvement Plan for ONI

Next Meeting: Monday, May 10, 2010, 5:30pm – City Hall