

## **Minutes of the Full Session of the New Portlander Policy Commission**

Friday, December 15, 2017

5-7 pm

Portland City Hall, Rose Room, 1221 SW Fourth Ave, Portland, OR

### **Attendees:**

- NPPC Co-Chairs: Joe Enlet, Maria Garcia
- NPPC Commissioners: Abdikhdar Bashir, Anne Downing, Baher Butti, June Schumann, Musse Olol, Sara Jayanthi Raman, Rania Ayoub, Djimet Dogo, Octaviano Merceias-Cuevas, Victoria Cross, Wajdi Said, Evelyn Liu, Lee Po Cha, Natalya Sobolevskaya, Rick Birkel
- ONI Staff & Personnel: Suk Rhee, Dianne Riley, Ashley Horne, Winta Yohannes, Polo Catalani, Linda Castillo, May Low
- Absences: Sho Dozono, SB Langh, Raju Subedi, Ping Khaw, Jamal Dar, Kolini Fusitua, Yonas Kassie, Sanja Muranovic

### **I. Call to Order**

Co-Chair Joe Enlet called to order the regular meeting of the New Portlander Policy Commission at 5:20 pm on Friday, December 15, 2017 at Portland City Hall.

### **II. Review and Approve Minutes from Last Meeting & Meeting Agenda**

The Commission was unable to agree upon the meeting minutes and did not approve them. See Exhibit A.

**Rick Birkel moved to approve the meeting agenda; Musse Olol seconded. Agenda approved. See Exhibit B.**

### **III. Presentation: Acknowledging Current Context of Our Work**

Polo Catalani gave a presentation on the background and role of the NPPC. The NPPC is required to present a report to City Council before the next fiscal year begins on July 1, 2018.

Suk Rhee gave a short presentation on ONI and committed to providing support to the NPPC commissioners.

### **IV. Discussion: Current NPPC Processes**

Joe Enlet began the discussion on NPPC communication protocols. The consensus is there needs to be an official method of communication and not the informal combination of text messages, emails, phone calls, and in-person conversations that currently exists. Suggestions include Commission email addresses for official NPPC business, a website for updates, a secure site for NPPC communications and documents, and a physical NPPC office to facilitate meetings and commission business.

Polo Catalani is the City of Portland staff person for the NPPC tasked with performing administrative and communication functions.

Octaviano Merencias-Cuevas proposed a training for NPPC co-chairs and Executive Committee (ExComm) members on protocols for running the Commission, interacting with staff, and advising City Hall on policy. The Commission members discussed setting up a retreat for this training where the ExComm participants will produce a guiding blueprint on how to run the Commission and present it to the full NPPC. Wajdi Said then proposed that the entire Commission should attend the retreat. June Schumann agreed and recommended a two-step process where the ExComm would receive the training as soon as possible and the full Commission would receive the training subsequently.

**Wajdi made a motion for the NPPC to have and attend a training retreat. Musse Olol seconded the motion. The motion for training passed.**

The Commission decided upon Saturday, January 13, 2018 as the all-day retreat date for the ExComm and Saturday, February 10, 2018 as the all-day retreat date for the full Commission.

There is a discussion about revisiting the size and make-up of the ExComm because there are too many people in it and the decision-making authority needs to be clearer and more transparent.

**V. Presentation: New Portland Foundation/PSU – “Center for Research on Resettling NW Communities”**

Polo Catalani gave a presentation on the New Portland Foundation (NPF). Many members of the Commission expressed confusion over whether the NPF is associated with the NPPC and if so, why the commissioners were not consulted about its formation. Polo and Suk explained that the NPF is a separate and unrelated entity. Because the mission behind the NPF is aligned with the mission of the NPPC, the NPPC can support the work of the NPF but they are fundamentally distinct. Some commissioners expressed confusion over the similarity in name between the NPF and the NPPC.

Musse asked Polo to submit background information on the NPF to the NPPC. The Commission requested that Polo submit that information by Wednesday, December 20, 2017.

**VI. New Business**

New business was tabled for the next meeting.

**VII. Other Business**

Wajdi asked the ONI staff and personnel to introduce themselves.

Octaviano requested that the meeting agenda and accompanying documents for all meetings going forward be submitted to the full Commission 2 weeks prior to the meeting date. Maria Garcia and Joe Enlet asked the commissioners to send agenda items to them for approval and addition to the agenda.

Natalya Sobolevskaya asked for a clarification on who is on the ExComm:

- Co-chairs – Joe Enlet, Sho Dozono, Maria Garcia, Raju Subedi (Secretary)
- At large - Abdikhdar Bashir, Wajdi Said
- Equity In Practice Committee co-chairs – Rick Birkel and Kolini Fusitua
- Advocacy & Education Committee co-chairs – Jamal Dar and June Schumann

- Economic Empowerment & Integration Committee co-chairs – Octaviano Merencias-Cuevas and Evelyn Liu
- Communal and Familial Dignity Committee co-chairs – Bahir Butti and Ping Khaw

**VIII. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm

Meeting Minutes submitted by May Low

Meeting Minutes approved by the full NPPC Commission

**Exhibit A**  
**Meeting Minutes of the NPPC Full Commission on October 24, 2017**

**Exhibit B**  
**Meeting Agenda for December 15, 2017**