



MEETING MINUTES

Committee 3.96 Meeting #4

Thursday, March 21, 2019; 5:30 P.M. –8:30 P.M.

Bridge Meadows, Community Room

8502 N Wayland Ave, Portland, OR 97203

Attendance: Dani Bernstein, Kathy Coleman, Dr. Alan DeLaTorre, Taylor Ford, Karin Hansen, Heather A

Hoell, Rabbi Debra Kolodny, JR Lilly, Amanda Manjarrez, JD, Molly Mayo, Hilary Mackenzie, Marcus

Mundy, Linda Nettekoven, Chi Nguyen, Musse Olol and Kathleen Saadat

Staff: Director Suk Rhee, Sabrina Wilson, Winta Yohannes, Dianne Riley, Kenya Williams, Tony Garcia

Meeting called to order at 5:30pm

I. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

A land acknowledgement was done through committee member Linda Nettekoven. Linda Nettekoven is the presiding officer for this meeting.

II. Introduction – Frances Portillo

Frances Portillo shared her Portland Moment with the committee.

III. Public Comment

The public was welcomed to comment.

IV. Review Committee Timeline (Supporting Document A)

Sabrina Wilson reviewed the committee timeline.

V. Community Input Data (*Gathering Perspectives & Adding Voices* Presentation Slides)

- a. Survey
- b. Community Conversations
- c. Existing Gatherings

Civic Life staff; Kenya Williams and Sabrina Wilson, led a review of the community input process and initial themes. Committee members and additional Civic Life staff spoke about the various community input data spaces they attended.

VI. Information Processing Dialogue

Committee members engaged Civic Life staff and one another in a conversation around what was presented.

VII. Review List of Themes (Supporting Document B)

Committee reviewed previous meeting notes and an activity worksheet to begin emerging concepts.



OFFICE OF
**Community
& Civic Life**



VIII. BREAK

IX. Code Titles Activity (Supporting Document C)

Committee worked in a small group code titles activity to begin looking at emerging concepts.

X. Full Group Report Outs

Small groups reported out highlights from group activity.

XI. Looking Ahead to Meeting #5

Meeting five will be held at Milagro Theatre.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30PM



**COMMITTEE 3.96
MEETING # 1**

Project Overview
Community Building
Surfacing Questions

**COMMITTEE 3.96
MEETING # 2**

Bureau Overview
Project Background
Emerging Theme: Civic Engagement

**COMMITTEE 3.96
MEETING # 3**

Testing Assumptions
Creating a Skeletal Code

**GATHERING PERSPECTIVES
& ADDING VOICES**

DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT
A Survey of Civic Life
Responses: **1,014**

**13 EXISTING
COMMUNITY
GATHERINGS**

**5 MULTILINGUAL COMMUNITY
CONVERSATIONS:**
English, Russian, Somali, Spanish, & Vietnamese

**BRINGING
COMMUNITY TOGETHER**

APRIL 2019
Inviting Portlanders to view the collected data and feedback

**COMMITTEE 3.96
MEETING # 4**

Reviewing Community Feedback
First Impressions

**REVIEW DRAFT
RECOMMENDATIONS**

MAY 2019
Inviting Portlanders to view draft Code recommendations

**COMMITTEE 3.96
MEETING # 5**

Draft City Code

**COMMITTEE 3.96
MEETING # 6**

Review City Code

**COMMITTEE 3.96
PROPOSED MEETING # 7**

Finalize Presentation to Council

ACTIVITY WORKSHEET: *EMERGING CONCEPTS*

~~CHAPTER 3.96 - OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT~~
~~OFFICE OF COMMUNITY & CIVIC LIFE~~
(Chapter replaced by Ordinance No. 179418, effective August 12, 2005)

Sections:

- 3.96.010 Purpose.
- 3.96.020 Definitions.
- 3.96.030 Civic Engagement
- 3.96.040 Functions of Community
- 3.96.050 Responsibility of City Agencies.
- 3.96.060 Responsibilities of the Office of Community & Civic Life

3.96.010 Purpose.

This chapter creates a framework by which the people of the City of Portland may effectively participate in civic affairs and work together to create a more just, equitable and inclusive region. This chapter outlines the concepts that each generation must define and renew for themselves in order to create neighborhoods, communities and a City where each of us can contribute and belong. This chapter also creates the Office of Community & Civic Life and sets out its functions, duties and responsibilities in supporting these racial and social justice goals. Nothing in this Chapter shall limit the right of any person or group to participate directly in the decision-making processes of the City Council or of any City agency.

3.96.020 Definitions

- A. Stakeholders – Self identifying communities that live, play and work in the City of Portland.

3.96.030 Civic Engagement

The shared space of community and government creating systems that meet the unique needs of each community while bringing together each community to prosper in the City of Portland through inclusive processes, leadership alignment and relevant access.

- A. Inclusive Process – Prioritizing accessibility for all community members that eliminate barriers to engagement, participation and decision-making. Create culturally specific mechanisms to provide information and resources to meet the needs of the community.
- B. Leadership Alignment – Enforce equity-based practices through continually redirecting resources that reduce disparities in the City of Portland.

This document is not draft code recommendation.

- C. Relevant Access – Ensure an ongoing reexamination of assumptions that influence the process for community to engage.

3.96.040 Functions of Community

Hold City agencies responsible for creating actionable items in decision making processes.

3.96.50 Responsibility of City Agencies

- A. City agencies shall respect the ways that communities self-identify.
- B. City agencies shall create cross bureau connections that work with community to achieve equitable outcomes in agency practices and services.
- B. City agencies shall collaborate with stakeholders on defining, planning and implementing efforts that affect the livability of the community.
- C. City agencies shall invest in building the community infrastructure in order to address collective concerns and proactively build authentic relationships with an understanding of historical exclusion and social justice.
- D. City agencies must always recognize who is being benefited and burdened in decision making processes.

3.96.060 Responsibilities of the Office of Community & Civic Life

Charged with addressing those populations that have the worst outcomes by ensuring the relationship of government and community, recognizing the continual evolving of community, identity and place.

SECTIONS:

3.96.010 Purpose

3.96.020 Definitions

3.96.030 Civic Engagement

3.96.040 Functions of Community

3.96.050 Responsibility of City Agencies

3.96.060 Responsibilities of City Government

3.96.070 Responsibilities of the Office of Community & Civic Life

CONTENT ORGANIZATION:

- 1) **Content** – This is what should be said in the update code
- 2) **Language** – This is how it should be said in the updated code
- 3) **For Consideration** when updating city code

KEEP IN MIND: City Code vs. Administrative Rule – what belongs in city code?

Purpose

1. Content

- Not Region – City of Portland
- Participate in civic affairs and work with city government to create a more....
- This chapter outlines concepts to create a safe, inclusive & livable city where each of us can contribute and belong
- sets out its functions, duties and responsibilities on racial and social justice goals
- Last sentence- delete word directly....

2. Language

- Example language is not very accessible – use word like connections “authentic outreach”, fostering continuous improvement, accountability (ongoing communication loop, not a one-time communication)
- We don’t want clunky language

3. For Consideration

- Input to recognize renewal needed for different generations to define and renew
- Tie to Portland Plan: Prosperous, educated, healthy, equitable

Definitions

1. Content

- “Lived experience” important phrase
- Possible definitions for: accountability accessibility, authentic outreach
- Stakeholders:
 - i. Any person who lives, works, plays or worships in the city of PDX
 - ii. Civic Life
 - iii. Community
 - iv. Civic engagement
 - v. Citizen (is it important?)
 - vi. Inclusive/inclusivity

2. Language

- “Stakeholders” – problematic word
- Stakeholders as self-identifying communities feels too narrow: broader – all who live, work, own, play, worship

3. For Consideration

- N/A

Civic Engagement

1. Content

- Continuous loop of communication and improvement
- Building trust via ongoing relationships, transparency, and long-term engagement
“Avoid the transitional
- Using different languages and methods of communication
- Recognize existing community structures and their leadership
- Reaching out to new communities, and communities that experience barriers – community itself, not organizations that serve
- Add social justice & equity into this section
- We need learning opportunities for folks to know the system – mentoring
 - i. Multiple entry points
 - ii. Open to other ways of engaging (don’t have to know the system to engage)
 - iii. Meet people where they are at

2. Language

- Representation – how do we include all the voices
- Civic? Should it be community?

3. For Consideration

- How does the city form of government play in to this GEO (geographic representation)?
- Leadership alignment – what does that even mean?
- Must be funded – ADA – all accessibility needs, childcare, etc.
- Free beer Friday in Benson bubblers
- The good is to make civic engagement both
- Inclusive? – Methods/actions
- The time for half measures and talk is over, senator
- I, too, sing civic engagement
- Civic engagement is what WE; the community, say it is. NOT govt!
- Teaching values of civic engagement

Functions of Community

1. Content

- Participate
- Generate ideas
- Articulate feedback on what's implemented
- Articulate issues
- Give positive and negative feedback (constructive)
- It is the responsibility of community to tell agencies and government about harm/dysfunction by other parts of community (or violation of codes expectation and cultural norms)
- Educate / get educated about how government should work (receive the education)
- Provide voice for voiceless/powerless, give conduit to be heard, navigate through government
- Input to policy/input on structure (like city council structure)
- Give input on gaps in service
- Develop & nurture informal civic orgs and groups
- Encourage and nurture future civic leaders
- Work for the collective good

2. Language

- "Functions of community" heading is an interesting, innovative, and positive heading, effective & important

3. For Consideration

- Police the police/monitor the monitors
- Push for a two-year budget cycle
- Where do formal vs informal structures come into play? How do we bring in a typical voice into the government conversation?
- How do you share power? & grow (NA vs citizens vs DCL) – SHARE not compete – additive
- Community needs to act as extension of City government (for collaboration, communication, use of trusted relationships, empowering folks at grassroots and grass tops levels (both!))
- Public input: how to create a system that properly, authentically engages vs same old same old?
- Value and incorporate community input + respect + honoring
- Extraction of cultural knowledge without compensation – pay the community for its knowledge
- Need to figure out a way to engage community, outside the numbers game (i.e. squeaking wheels get the grease)
- Government needs direct representation from community (ex. Somali community)

Responsibilities of City Agencies – other bureaus

1. Content

- Implement best practices
- Keep consistently with best practices in outreach
- Access to Civic Life findings
- Each Bureau should have own community engagement and must be responsive to citizens and community input
- Be responsive, own the problem, celebrate the successes
- Be willing to change charter/structure of government if inefficient/inoperable (“the way we’ve always done it” is no reason at all! Many of us would still be shackles if that were the rule)
- Annual report on civic engagement activities

2. Language

- N/A

3. For Consideration

- No advisory committee/no tokenism
- Ensures stability and continuity of service
- Protect all residents (lives, homes, education, economics, rights)
- Give more power to the people
- Kow Tow to the proletariat

What is the Responsibility of City Government?

1. Content

- Civic engagement
- Code enforcers
- Provide adequate funding
- Commitment to ongoing evaluation and corrective action?
- With new communities and not just established organization and not just connected individuals
- Maintaining macro view of challenges, opportunities and solutions
- Fairly balancing needs and resources
- Be honest brokers of government resources for the good of the residents
- To serve (provide services to the people) its constituency
- To respond to the needs of its constituency
- To adapt to the need of the constituency
- Bi-directional communication

2. Language

- N/A

3. For Consideration

- Decision makers (\$\$\$) – elected and directors
- Investing (and maintaining) in infrastructure and programs

Responsibilities of the Office of Community & Civic Life

1. Content

- Creating a sense of belonging and contribute meaningfully
- Periodical analysis of barriers to accessing/participating in civic engagement
- Building resilient communities to self-advocate and determine successes – is this responsibility of Civic Life? Can Civic Life provide funding for this work?
- Act as reference for other bureaus for best practices
- Establish relationships with multiple communities in Portland to engender participation in Civic Life
- Support community involvement with all City advisory committees (recruitment, retention)
- Don't duplicate community resources
- Use community smarts to create efficiencies and effectiveness
- Identify who is not being heard, then outreach to them find out their desires, dreams for it
- Community liaisons – reps in the community

2. Language

- N/A

3. For Consideration

- Ensure employment of community on ALL elements of mission (livability and safety)
- Gala/celebration/campaign. Re: involvement. We are the city that includes – radio/TV/buses
- Count what you value
- Communicate communicate communicate – strategic easily accessible to all residents
- Create a budget that the values in the code
- Degree of technical assistance provided to community groups (Leadership Dev, Organizing fund: share cost with other communities, etc.)
- Fast response times
- 10-year audit to ensure community engagement (or 5) practices are reflective of population
- Charter review – city wide audit – is our city government function well enough to meet needs of people
- Should be the go to people in the City and civic engagement
- Annual report to City Council on performance of bureaus re'. Civic engagement; frequency and outcome tied to budget

KEEP IN MIND: City Code vs. Administrative Rule – what belongs in city code?