



City of Portland, Oregon
Chabre Vickers, Chair
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Meeting Minutes

Date: February 5th, 2016 Time: 4:07 p.m. – 6:55p.m.

Location: 421 SW 6th Avenue, Suite 500 Portland, OR

Commission Attendees: Chabre Vickers, Audrey Alverson, Theresa Soto, Se-ah-dom Edmo, Alisha Zhao, Allan Lazo, Ashley Horne, Damon Isiah Turner, Deyalo Bennette

Excused: Rebecca Naga, Marcia Suttentberg

OEHR staff attendees: Judith Mowry, Acting Director, Office of Equity and Human Rights
Tatiana Elejalde, Program Coordinator
Areale Hammond, Assistant Program Specialist

*At the start of the meeting there was no quorum due to lack of attendance.

Chair's Statement

The Chair's statement will be abbreviated due to the Portland Housing Bureau presentation. OEHR hosted attorney event. Great thanks to OEHR Team! At the event, Chabre was able to meet with Ellen Osoinach.

(Quorum Commenced at 4:18 p.m.)

Approval of agenda and minutes

Commissioner Deyalo arrived and quorum was reached at 4:18 p.m. Allan moves to accept the December minutes, Teresa seconds, motion passed. Audrey moves to accept the January minutes, Teresa seconds, motion passed. Deyalo moves to accept the February agenda, Teresa seconds, motion passed.

PHB Presentation by Karl Dinkelspiel, HIPP Team Manager & Matt Tschabold, Equity and Policy Manger

North/Northeast Portland Neighborhood Housing Strategy

20 million dollars from the Portland Development Commission (PDC) was sent to the Portland Housing Bureau (PHB). This served as a catalyst for implementing a strategy for North/Northeast Portland neighborhoods. 4 million dollars will be used to ensure people who are in the Interstate Ave. area are not displaced. For people who are residing in the Interstate Ave. area who have not been displaced, part of the 4 million will go to them for home repair. Grant Warehouses will be used to create space for people in need of a home. 81 units in the warehouse are suggested to be complete in 1 ½ years. These units are created for low income individuals and families. There is a loan assistance program for people who have been displaced to buy a home in N/NE Portland.

Homelessness

Mayor Hales proposed budget initiative to create temporary shelters. The Mayor is attempting to buy land to eliminate overlap of houses being used for displacement and homelessness. 3 million dollars will go to the Portland Housing Bureau for temporary shelter from the Mayor's Office.

Preference Policy

The housing strategy will focus on several specific criteria:

- Displaced historic residents in N/NE Portland
- Preference policy applies to rental houses
- Affect the order of the list for services not program eligibility
- For low income participants
- 13,000 units in the city

The preference policy has been summarized into four goals:

Goal #1 is to give preference to families based on amount of urban renewal activity. A point system has been created to reflect renewal activity. Families with higher renewal concentration received more points. There is a specific focus on Emmanuel Hospital Community, Rose Quarter Community, Albina Community, Interstate Corridor, and Memorial Coliseum Community.

Goal #2 is to focus on low-income households who apply for assistance. These families would receive 3 preference points, for example. Households with ancestors (people living in home for generations) would receive up to 6 preference points.

Goal #3 is to give preference to low-income families regardless of where they live.

Goal #4 Locate homes taken by the City and also work with other families other than the ones listed above. PHB will be working with the City Attorney's office if names are not mentioned on the list from the preference criteria.

Structure of Policy

The policy waitlist structure will use the point preference system. The points given are based on family need. For people who are eligible for points, PHB wants to be sure to work with community advisors to help those individuals with access to the points they are eligible for. Home repair is also a part of policy work, however, it will be targeted for senior citizens in the community. Preference policy is specifically for families who have had a home for generations, but were displaced.

Commissioner See-ah-dom highlighted that there is more work needed for Native American communities as well.

Public Comment at 5:22pm

Courtney Shannon: There needs to be a big push for housing, not shelters. This provides more stability for people, specifically, women with children.

Charles Johnson: Why do representative not show when we talk about homelessness?

OEHR Director's Report - Judith Mowry, Acting Director

There was a 2-day attorney event that the Office of Equity and Human Rights (OEHR) hosted. OEHR had the privilege of having John Powell from the University of California, Berkley attend and speak at the event. John A. Powell is the Endowed Chair of Equity and Inclusion at the University. There were local attorneys from Metro, Gresham, and Multnomah County areas who attended, as well. Darby Decomb from Minneapolis, MN proved very influential for the lawyers. OEHR budget was turned in. All bureaus had to make a 5% budget cut, which was a difficult task. New staff joined the OEHR Team. Welcome Nickole Cheron. Nickole will be the Equity Policy and Commission on Disability Coordinator for OEHR. Welcome Areale Hammond. Areale will be the Assistant Program Specialist. The Mayor accepted the budget for the tribal community.

Administration of Justice

Retreat Update – the contracting process is still underway. Once that process is complete, planning for the retreat will commence, followed by planning for the roundtable event.

Community Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) Update

The COAB received their 2nd survey where people expressed their experience with the police. The COAB intends to make recommendations to police on what to do when police engage with

individuals. Their committee also plans to shift from a quarterly report for the Compliance Officer/Community Liaison (COCL) to an annual report.

It would be great to have more community members attend the subcommittees, greater participation by people with lived experience is needed. The Community Engagement & Outreach Plan subcommittee needs more people. Jimmy Johnson is the Chair of that subcommittee. There is a great need for deliberate relationships with the police and the community. Call out humanity as 1st point of reference in exposing unlawful force. In addition, the community should say the name(s) of a police officer (s) that have wrongly used force on them and not be ashamed to talk about their personal experiences.

Chair Vickers will meet with the Department of Justice and Attorney's office. More information will be shared at the next Commission meeting.

Community & Police Relations Committee – Commissioners asked why CPRC meetings have been cancelled?

- Judith: Unclear communication
- Teresa: disconnect at how emotional information can be received

Commissioner Engagement and Attendance

What are barriers with being completely involved with the commission?

- See-ah-dom: Time- The only thing sacrificed for being committed to the commission is time with her family, which is very difficult for her.
- Alisha: Not having background knowledge of big issues, like housing. Having trouble being a middle class citizen discussing other class issues- hard to be relatable. She is interested in the link of education and human rights and would like to hear more on this topic.
- Teresa: travel- needs to plan in advance for meetings
- Daniel: Time- he lives in Milwaukie. His travel time to HRC is longer than the meeting itself on occasion.
- Audrey: structure and organization. She would like to know exactly what HRC will be doing each meeting
- Ashley: Extremely under staffed at her job, so she has been very busy there. Also, the commission should focus on the strength of others
- Allan: Lack of energy- when meaningful work isn't being done

Announcements

There are 3 vacant positions on HRC. As a result, Chair Vickers will plan to create an ad hoc committee around August.

A motion was called for the revision of the letter of support for the Tribal Liaison position in the City. Allan moved, Teresa seconds, motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:55pm