

## **The Oregonian**

### **Amanda Fritz's failures: Letters to the editor**

*By Letters to the Editor*

*June 28, 2017*

Controversies and conflicts have surrounded Amanda Fritz's three terms as Portland city commissioner, and once again, Mayor Ted Wheeler has pulled management of a bureau from her. This time, it's Portland's 911 center, leaving Fritz as the only commissioner with only one bureau, which hasn't happened in 30 years.

Before Wheeler took over the bureau, Fritz had plenty of time, but failed to come up with a cohesive plan to rectify obvious deficiencies. You would think Fritz might be a bit contrite, reassuring voters that she'd be putting 100% effort into managing her lone remaining bureau, Parks and Recreation. You would be wrong.

In a statement, Fritz said she and her staff, "Welcome the opportunity to focus our time on other urgent and important issues." What "other" issues? She went on to list "systemic racism, hate crimes, and support for marginalized communities." All good and noble causes but Gandhi, she's not. If Fritz can't handle comparatively-simplistic internal 911 problems, how is she to solve these massively complex, ubiquitous social issues?

Perhaps we already know one of her strategies, which was also controversial: The recent "diversity training" workshop she approved for herself and her staff, at a resort in Arizona -- at \$40,000 a pop, on the taxpayer's dime.

My question is, when will voters decide they've finally had enough of being represented by Amanda Fritz?

## **The Portland Tribune**

### **Sources Say: Saltzman says he's running in 2020**

Plus, Police Chief Mike Marshman is being tested more than any other potential candidate to replace him

*By Jim Redden*

*June 29, 2017*

Portland City Commissioner Dan Saltzman confirms to Sources that he is running for re-election in 2020, even though he hasn't issued a public announcement. The confirmation comes after we reported last Thursday that Saltzman has raised \$28,000 in campaign funds this year, with much of it coming in since the beginning of May.

"I expect it will be a highly contested race," says Saltzman, the longest-serving member of the City Council. He was first elected in November 1998 after serving on the Multnomah County Commission since 1993.

Meanwhile, the other council member up for re-election next year, Commissioner Nick Fish, still has not begun raising campaign funds. Fish does, however, owe the Hilltop Public Services consulting firm \$2,500 for management services.

## **Put same questions to all police chief candidates**

By defending the actions of the Portland police at the competing June 4 political demonstrations, is Chief Mike Marshman helping or hurting his chances of keeping his job?

It's unclear if Marshman has applied for the job as part of the national search being conducted by Mayor Ted Wheeler. But if so, he's the only applicant, so far, who has answered a letter from Wheeler questioning some of the tactical decisions made by police to keep pro-Trump and anti-Trump protests under control on June 4.

Although Wheeler is pleased no one was hurt at the protests, he sent Marshman a letter on June 13 asking why police wore riot gear and detained protesters (and reporters) on Southwest Fourth Avenue, among other things. Marshman responded on June 21 with lengthy explanations defending the decisions.

If Marshman has applied for the job, it only would be fair for Wheeler to ask all the finalists if they agree or disagree with the answers.

## **More tests for Marshman coming**

And Marshman likely will have other opportunities to defend the police before Wheeler makes his final decision, possibly in late July.

Right-wing protesters are once again planning to come downtown for a so-called Freedom March on Friday afternoon, June 30. Like the June 4 pro-Trump rally, it probably will provoke a counterprotest by their opponents. This time the police also may have to deal with a larger number of bystanders — the Waterfront Blues Festival will be underway in Gov. Tom McCall Waterfront Park.

Then, two days later, the latest in the ongoing series of marches calling for Trump to be impeached is scheduled to start at the park. It is one of many such protests scheduled across the country that day.

## **The Daily Journal of Commerce**

### **Iconic structure's fate unclear**

*By Kent Hohlfeld*

*June 27, 2017*

After more than three hours of debate Monday, the only sure thing about the design of the **Portland Building** improvement project is that the team in charge will return before the **Portland Historic Landmarks Commission** on July 24.

City staff had recommended that the commission approve the team's restoration plan with conditions. But the commission held off on making a decision Monday after Kate Kearney, communications director for **Docomomo Oregon**, requested that the public record be kept open to allow further testimony. Docomomo Oregon is a nonprofit dedicated to promoting the architecture, art, landscape and urban design of the modern movement.

That request triggered an automatic 21-day period for further testimony to be taken and various rebuttal statements to be entered into the record.

Even if the delay had not occurred, it was unclear exactly what action the commission would have taken.

“I am up in the air,” Commission Chairman Kirk Ranzetta said.

Commissioner Matthew Roman indicated that he would have voted to approve the proposed design. Commissioners Wendy Chung and Annie Mahoney were troubled by the plan, but noncommittal as to which way they were leaning.

The Portland Building, designed by the late **Michael Graves**, is considered an iconic example of postmodern architecture. It was added to the **National Register of Historic Places** in 2011. A sticking point in the proposed improvement plans for the building at 1120 S.W. Fifth Ave. is whether installing a rain screen over the structure could cause it to be removed from the national register.

That concern was spurred by a letter from the **National Park Service** in which it addressed the materials in the proposed rain screen. Its early opinion was that aluminum in the rain screen would constitute a substantial change to the building and could lead to it being delisted.

“We have a disagreement with SHPO (the **Oregon State Historic Preservation Office**) and NPS (National Park Service) over the definition of preservation,” said Erica Ceder, an architect with project designer **DLR Group**. “I think that this is part of a larger conversation in preservation. This is a different building type. The principles of preservation are hard to apply.”

It’s unclear if proposed modifications would result the Portland Building being delisted. The NPS based its letter on an earlier version of the plan presented at a design advice request hearing last year. The building could be removed from the national register only if requested by someone and if an ensuing investigation by the NPS found the changes were so significant that they affected architectural significance.

Commissioners were even split over whether the possibility of the building being delisted would be reason enough to deny approval of the plan.

“I am not swayed by the materiality argument,” Roman said. “It’s an iconic building, but not because of the materials that were used, but more of the overall forms. I think all of Michael Graves’ design intentions are carried forward. What the building represents, whether it’s on the national register or not, to me is unaltered by what is being proposed. What it symbolizes won’t change whether it’s listed or delisted.”

Patrick Burke, senior architect at Michael Graves Architecture & Design, was a student when Graves worked on the Portland Building project. He said Graves would likely have approved of the preservation plan and was always more concerned about his vision coming to life than which materials were used.

Burke told a story of contractors coming to Graves and telling him that the only way to build the structure within budget was to use a concrete skin and paint it instead of using stucco as he preferred.

“There is a famous quote that we have used since,” Burke said. “Michael said, ‘I don’t care if we make it out of bleeping oatmeal; we are going to get this thing in the budget.’”

Also, Burke doesn’t believe the building’s listing on the national register was a focus of pride for Graves.

“In all honesty, I am not sure that was important to him,” he said. “The building design mattered to him more than what list it was on. When this was put on the national registry, he didn’t exactly jump for joy.”

For commissioners, however, the possibility of the building losing its national recognition is a serious concern.

“To me, in this particular matter, we have an obligation to protect the resource,” Ranzetta said. “If it is delisted as a consequence of operation that we authorized, I would say we failed in that obligation.”

Portland’s rainy weather and the tight budget for original construction are big reasons why the 35-year-old building needs improvements totaling \$195 million. Tiles were stuck on a concrete structure, and an inadequate seal has resulted in water leaking into walls and causing significant structural damage.

The city considered other options, including demolition, but decided the rain screen fit within its budget and preserved the building’s unique look and architectural importance.

The basic plan is to cover the building with aluminum plates that closely, but don’t exactly, match the building’s current appearance. The plates will shield the structure from the elements. Under the plan, tiles will be larger than the originals and structural changes will increase seismic strength.

The possibility that those changes could result in Portland losing one of its few structures on the national register was enough to convince **Restore Oregon** to oppose the proposed plan.

“Do not alter the building in this way,” said Dan Everhart, preservation programs manager for the group.

With the 21-day delay, the design team will have a chance to seek additional guidance from the NPS and possibly learn whether the current plan would allow the building to stay on the register.

“NPS doesn’t normally weigh in until after construction,” Ceder said. “There is really no time for a response.”

Given the timeline that the city and the commission are working under, the commission may have to choose between risking the listing on the national register or saving the building.

“If it got delisted, but got saved,” Roman said, “that, for me, is the higher goal.”

## **The Portland Business Journal**

### **Outgoing Prosper Portland commissioners on the agency's recent past and future**

Outgoing Proper Portland commissioners Tom Kelly and Mark Edlen on the victories, missed opportunities of their tenure at the evolving agency.

*By Jon Bell  
June 28, 2017*

Ask Mark Edlen what might be his biggest disappointment from his two years serving as a commissioner for Prosper Portland, and there’s little hesitation: Centennial Mills.

“I think Centennial Mills is a great piece of property, but I’m really disappointed with the lack of response we’ve had to it,” he said of Prosper Portland’s riverfront property that’s had no luck being redeveloped despite several false starts. “It’s complex and it’s got a lot of warts on it, but I

think it could be developed into a world-class project. It's not going to happen on my tenure, but I'm hopeful they'll find a great development partner for it."

It won't happen in Edlen's tenure on the board of the city's economic and real estate development agency because that winds down this week, as does the term of Tom Kelly, president of homebuilding and remodeling firm Neil Kelly and the most recent chair of the commission. Mayor Ted Wheeler is expected to appoint two new commissioners to fill the positions shortly.

For Kelly, who actually served three-and-a-half years on the commission, his biggest letdown is only that he won't be on the commission anymore as Prosper Portland moves forward with its plans for the U.S. Post Office property it purchased for \$88 million last year.

"If I had any angst, it would be that I would have liked to stay around for the opportunity to see that come to fruition," he said. "We have laid the groundwork on that. It's one of the largest investments that Prosper Portland has ever engaged in, and it's going to be one of the signature projects of a generation."

The end of Edlen's and Kelly's terms on the commission come as both the agency and the city it serves have transformed. Portland is experiencing a development boom that's changing neighborhoods all over town, and people are moving here in droves.

That activity has also driven much of what Prosper Portland — which itself transformed from the Portland Development Commission after a roughly \$200,000 rebranding earlier this year — has been up to in recent years. The agency has been key in getting new development to finally kick off in Lents — there are four different projects currently under construction there — and the Post Office purchase and redevelopment has the potential to entirely alter a piece of the Pearl District.

The new development and other factors in Portland have also accompanied a rising affordability crisis that's found Prosper Portland sharpening its focus on low-income areas and issues like equity and social justice. Former executive director Patrick Quinton's seemingly early exit in 2016 led to Kimberly Branam taking the reins. Edlen said Branam has already stepped up the agency's shift in focus.

"Her lens on equity and social justice is just really fitting, and I think deep in her heart it's where she wants to head as an organization," Edlen said.

And Kelly said hiring Branam, Prosper Portland's former deputy director of strategy and operations, was one of the key decisions of his tenure.

"I think almost the entire leadership team has been hired since she came on board, and they are much more representative of our community from a diversity perspective," he said. "That's important stuff."

Kelly and Edlen, along with the three other volunteer commissioners, were also involved in coming up with a new long-term business plan for Prosper Portland, something that's not yet complete. In the coming years, as the city's urban renewal areas expire, the agency will need to find sources of revenue other than tax increment financing funds to carry out its economic and urban development goals.

The two outgoing commissioners acknowledged that Prosper Portland's role will continue to evolve in the coming years and that it will likely further hone in on underserved areas, including small businesses and communities of color. There's plenty of work before it — not only is the post office property a huge undertaking, but Prosper Portland has big plans for the Oregon

Department of Transportation blocks across the river — but they are confident in where the agency is headed.

“I think Mark and I are leaving it in good stead,” Kelly said. “We can be proud of its position in the community at the moment.”

## **Envisioning a Portland that grows 'UP not OUT'**

*By Clare Duffy  
June 28, 2017*

With a motto like "keep Portland weird," it makes sense that the city would be turning to face the strange, and change, as its population grows.

City planners expect to see an additional 260,000 residents added to Portland's current population of roughly 620,000 over the next 20 years, as well as 140,000 new jobs. As this week's cover story will illustrate, there are benefits to this growth, but residents and city leaders alike agree that it also creates challenges that will require intentional planning and problem solving, most obvious among them: housing and transportation issues.

The City of Portland has begun this effort with the release of its 2035 Comprehensive Plan, an extensive document that sets out goals and strategies for accommodating growth in the metro area while retaining livability and aiming to increase equity over the next several decades. The plan was developed over 4 years with input from more than 20 local agencies, and is grounded in the idea that Portland should grow "UP not OUT," an objective set when urban planning for the region began in earnest in the 1970s.

"We have been lucky enough that we have been a growing city and a growing region for a long time, so we have been expecting and planning for it," said Tom Armstrong, a supervising planner with the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, who worked on the plan.

"Going back to the 1980s, we have embraced the idea of planning for growth and have had a growth management strategy that focuses on our multiuse and multimodal centers and corridors."

In the near-term, accommodating growth is proving difficult as developers race to help the post-recession housing supply catch up to demand. But the 2035 Plan takes a more long-term view on what Portland should look like and the kinds of opportunities residents should have access to, and also incorporates a 5-year plan to get the ball rolling. That vision incorporates five general principles: economic prosperity, human health, environmental health, equity and resilience.

The plan goes into a bit more detail as to how city leaders will accomplish these goals, things like changing zoning rules so that city centers can become more dense and basic services like grocery stores can enter areas where they were previously unavailable. It identifies locations where city greenways, improved sidewalks and bike lanes can be constructed to reduce Portlanders' reliance on cars. It also sets out a goal for increasing the supply for subsidized, long-term affordable housing from 7.5 percent of the total housing supply to 15 percent.

"We are constantly updating our plans, allowing for taller buildings in the city center, looking for different types of mixed use zones and trying to ensure we have the zoning capacity for that growth," Armstrong said. "The development capacity is there, the hardest part is just figuring out the details of housing and transportation plans."

Another key aspect of the 2035 Plan is doing a better job of bringing traditionally under-served and under-represented populations into the fold of city decision-making.

It aims to: "promote equity and environmental justice by reducing disparities, minimizing burdens, extending community benefits, increasing the amount of affordable housing, affirmatively furthering fair housing, proactively fighting displacement, and improving socio-economic opportunities," for these demographics, as well as "intentionally engaging under-served and under-represented populations in decisions that affect them."

Specifically, the bureau will allow this goal to guide who is hired for consulting work or is appointed to advisory committees, how it does outreach and where projects are planned, according to BPS Communications Manager Eden Dabbs.

One of the most unique elements of the plan is a proposed 6-mile "Green Loop"—a series of new biking and walking pathways away from the street that would connect existing parks and trails throughout the east and west central city.

Portland City Council is seeking public comment on the plan until Sept. 15. The plan is also being reviewed at the state level by the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission, whose acknowledgement Armstrong said is expected by the end of the year.

## **The Skanner**

### **Local Government, Employers Welcome Youth to SummerWorks**

*By Multnomah County Communications Office  
June 28, 2017*

On Friday, June 30, Multnomah County and the City of Portland will join local governments and businesses in welcoming a record number of youth who will participate in SummerWorks internships during a kickoff event at Portland State University.

About 1,150 youth, ages 16 to 24, will take part in the SummerWorks internship program at job sites across Multnomah and Washington counties. As a result of increased investments and partnerships, about 115 more young people will participate than in 2016. Youth will work at about 200 job sites representing the public, private and nonprofit sectors.

"SummerWorks is about more than just a paycheck," Multnomah County Commissioner Loretta Smith said. "For many of the participants, it provides a first opportunity to explore career paths, to test their potential, and to learn about responsibility in the workplace. I am proud to have championed the resources for the SummerWorks program at Multnomah County over the past six years. I had a dream that we could one day support 500 youth to get their first job opportunity. That dream has come true and we have grown our youth participation from 25 to 650 participants that we invest in annually."

"I'm proud to kick off another season of SummerWorks, an amazing program that gives young people real-life experience in the workforce with access to mentoring that will help prepare them for the high-skill jobs we know are coming to our region," Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said.

SummerWorks is a public-private partnership that is locally supported by Worksystems, Inc., Multnomah County, the City of Portland, Washington County, the City of Beaverton, TriMet, Portland Public Schools, the Hillsboro School District, the Oregon Department of Human Services, and local private businesses.

Young people work in paid 180-hour internships and also receive mentoring and job training. The program primarily serves young people who are low income or from diverse communities.

At the kickoff event Friday, SummerWorks youth will network with employers and can sign up for bank accounts. They will listen to speakers including Commissioner Smith; Maurice Henderson, Mayor Wheeler's Chief of Staff; Gresham City Councilor Jerry Hinton; and this year's keynote speaker, Multnomah County Circuit Court Judge Adrienne Nelson.

For more information about SummerWorks, visit the Worksystems, Inc. website.

*SummerWorks Internship Program Kickoff*

**Friday, June 30**

**9:15 - 10:15 a.m.**

**Portland State University Lincoln Performance Hall**

**1620 S.W. Park Ave., Portland**