



Community Involvement Committee



# Community Involvement Committee

May 16, 2023 6:00-8:00 pm

Zoom

## MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

**In Attendance:** Pau Thang (facilitator, Co-Chair), Richard Barker (facilitator, Co-Chair), Lung Wah Lazum, Patrick Nolen, Ta' Neshia Renae, Jenny Shadley, Angel Brophy

**Excused:** Sasha Burchuk, Kristina Edmunson, Malcolm Hoover

**Absent:** Brian Outlaw, Kimberléa Ruffu

**Guests:** County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson, Lakeitha Elliott (advisor to Chair), Ruby Gonzales (advisor to Chair), Brian Romer (nominee, member of public)

**Staff:** KellyAnn Cameron (CIC Staff- notes), JR Lilly (OCI Director)

### Agenda Item

6:00 - 6:10pm **Introductions & Review Agenda**

**KA** welcomed everyone, confirmed Quorum (7+) and **started recording**

**Thang** led introductions of name, pronouns, and if you could have a all expenses paid vacation where would you go.

The Group reviewed [community agreements](#) and Thang shared:

- Today is a open meeting where anyone is welcome to attend and participate as appropriate
- If a member of the public wishes to providing testimony during public comment period, please state your name for the record and disclose if you are a lobbyist, or represent an organization.
- No person shall engage in activity that disrupts or interferes with the normal operation of this meeting. Disruptive conduct, such as shouting or interrupting testimony will not be allowed.
- If there are disruptions, a warning will be given that further disruption may result in the person being ejected for up to 24 hours by the OCI Director. After being ejected, a person who fails to leave the meeting is subject to arrest for trespass.
- County values and personnel policies. CIC Members, as Public Advisory Group Members, have all agreed to Multnomah County values and personnel policies

**Thang** reviewed and led approval of [AGENDA](#) and [minutes from March](#) using fist to 5

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6:10-6:30 **Guest Speaker: Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson**

Thang introduced Chair Vega Pederson.

Chair Jessica Vega Pederson shared thanks for the invite to this space. She shared that the CIC has played an interesting role at her time in the County- they went through a process about what the CIC does and its role. She is happy to engage with the group in the process of this and look at how we can work together in her new role as the Chair. She acknowledged that JR is coming in as the new director and working on these things, as well as Ruby and Lakeitha on her staff who are doing constituent relations work.

She shared that as she was thinking about how to start this conversation- related to what is the role and how does she see it- she went back to the original documents and what she thinks is important. She shared her screen and shared her notes from the Charter and Code establishing the OCI and the CIC (then Citizens committee) and that the work should be funded, etc. This doesn't go into a lot of details in the Charter, but the Code has more detail- it has the general idea there. She sees the things in the Code as the main functions of the CIC - and views the members as experts on their communities and on community involvement. She shared appreciation that the Committee focuses on specific things and digs deeper. She shared that the element of working closely with the OCI is important- and make sure that people are engaged in the County and we are eliminating barriers to communication in all departments. She also brought up the Community Involvement Resolution and recommend the committee take direction from that too. Those documents line up the County's commitments and she wants to ensure that the CIC knows she values their perspectives and recommendations, and if we are talking about different things in the County the role of the community is important and she welcomes people's thoughts and feedback on how to support people engaging with the community. A couple areas she sees as ripe for the Committee to work on:

- the Budgeting process- is there adequate community engagement in the budget, are CBACs working well, is that experience consistent across departments. The CIC can help us figure out how to do this better - involving community through CBACs and other avenues
- OCI re-vamp: as JR is putting together plans for the OCI you all can advise him on what he should prioritize and drive his work

She shared she wants to commit to uplifting their work and they have time to engage with her and her staff around their recommendations and thoughts. She wants to be in a dialogue with them around topics of interest for the committee, and invited everyone to work with Ruby, Lakeitha, and JR since she meets with the three of them regularly and can get info from them in addition to working with the CIC a couple times a year herself. She also shared that her priorities are looking at our response to the homelessness crisis, how Multnomah County is as effective and collaborative as possible with other jurisdictions and partners, working with behavioral health and healthcare providers to support and build a true response. Also looking at the COVID recovery we know it impacted people very differently based on how privileged and stable people were before it, and how the County can be part of a just recovery. Also Climate and impacts on our community are important to us. She opened the floor for questions.

Thang thanked her for sharing her vision and hopes for the relationship with her office and the CIC. Richard thanked her for coming and speaking and going through the committee's brainstorm of ideas for the relationship. One of his big requests was to know what areas are important to her for

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the CIC to support and she answered that- as we approach our next year you've given us some great ideas for us to work on. Jenny also shared thanks for the feedback and shared that this committee sometimes feels like we're flailing around on what advice is needed and whether we're saying things you already know- how can we provide the best kind of feedback that is effective while still being in a grassroots model. So if there are topics or questions that come up around community engagement it would be helpful for us to know and consider if we want to take it on as a committee. Also when these recommendations go out into the world, it is work sometimes outside of our comfort zone, is there any way we can create some kind of feedback loop maybe one year later where we review with you or others all the recommendations from the past and what has happened related to the recommendations- we'd love to hear how they are implemented. The Chair shared that in the Auditor's report today that came up as well- what happens with recommendations from them as well. How do we make sure that your work and work product is moving forward- part of that may be an update, another element is JR who can follow up with other departments and program sand get insight on how things are going and what they are doing with their recommendations. Jenny shared back that that would allow this committee to also know and celebrate the work of past CICs, and see how this work is impactful for the County. The Chair shared she has a phone call and shared appreciation for the chance to be here, and reminded folks that JR, Ruby and Lakeitha will all be great contacts for the members going forward. She thanked the CIC for their work.

Thang had to leave for a class and passed facilitation on to Richard.

**6:30-6:40 Debrief**

Richard invited the group to jot down or share any thoughts people have about the conversation so we can get them to JR and KA to follow up with the Chair. Ruby and Lakeitha also shared thanks and Ruby put the Chair's email and her email in the chat for folks to contact.

**6:40-6:50 Review of Consensus Process**

Richard led the group through a review of the fist to five consensus process using this [slideshow](#). Nobody had questions, KA thanked Richard for creating and leading this review

**6:50-7:00: Optional break** - the group decided to not take a break

**7:00-7:10: Approve new Members**

KA explained that since Thang dropped off they don't have quorum— she consulted with JR and determined we can move forward with collecting the first to 5 votes from present members then collect absent members (at least enough for quorum: 1) via google form after the meeting. If there is consensus we will move them forward. If someone votes a 0-2 in the form or here we will have to have another meeting with quorum to discuss and see if we can resolve concerns.

KA Thanked the Membership Subcommittee members who revisited and improved the process, read through applications, and did interviews: Angel, Lung Wah, Patrick, Richard

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and Thang! The Membership subcommittee also shared ideas and edits to be forwarded in the Policy and Procedures /Bylaws review next term.

You should have received the 3 finalists.

- We had 8 complete applicants, The app review team elevated 5 to be interviewed and landed on these 3 to recommend: **Brian Romer, Diego Martinez, and Jen Mair**. CIC members received their applications last week. Angel has completed her first term and has elected for reappointment as well! Malcolm is finishing his term
- Open it up: does anyone have questions about the applicants, thoughts on the process?
  - JR shared that equity is a part of the whole process. One thing to keep in mind is that we only have 1 representative from District 1, so next year we will want to make sure we do additional outreach in that district and/or invite additional speakers from that district to ensure we have everyone's voice from that district.
  - Jenny shared that is interesting and how do we do targeted outreach.

VOTE: using fist to 5

- Approve all 3 as a group + Angel for a second term
  - Ta'Neshia: 5
  - Jenny: 5
  - Lung Wah:
  - Angel: 5
  - Patrick: 5
  - Richard:5
- A google poll will be sent to those who could not attend - KA will add those here.
  - 5/18 Kristina (form) 3
  - 5/22 Kimberlea (form) 3

Now that they are approved they will be appointed by the Board in July or August- once we can get on the calendar, and KA will reach out to them to do orientations. Let KA know if you are interested in supporting orientations for new members!

### 7:10-7:40 **Reports from Subcommittees and approving Recommendations**

Richard introduced the Subcommittees- the full recommendations were sent out earlier but we have Richard and Ta' Neshia giving a little report.

Jenny shared for the Youth subcommittee- they started out by thinking about the impacts of COVID on the youth and their disproportionate impacts. As we learned more we saw that youth are largely left out of the conversation on programs that impact them. One challenge they found was that the County has more impact on mental health care, youth corrections, etc rather than the schools. We started with the Multnomah Youth Commission and saw they were experiencing a lot of the same things we were around not having feedback, etc. So we made that a big part of 1 and - creating a more targeted view of youth when we talk about decision making. The 3rd was about seeing youth

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as a group intentionally, especially in contracts. And number 4 was specifically around mental health since that was where we entered- we saw youth are engaged in sun programs etc but what about specifically around mental health as the issue that called us in. It's really hard to see what is happening with youth in the County.

**Comments:** Jenny recommended they be alphabetized. There is also a typo add a needs ot be separated. And the date on Brian's bio can be taken off. Patrick said he hopes that the lessoned learned page from our recommendation transfers to your recommendations as well- especially if the County had a page that shared feedback on what the MYC does.

Richard shared that the subcommittee focused on the homeless crisis and how it intertwines with emergency management- how the County is addressing the issues, how they can improve services from a lived experiences perspective, and work with other juristidtions in improving services. We met with MIL, PSU Homeless services, people from the Sheriff's office and more. First recommendation is to prioritize transparency in communication about housing, homelessness, and emergency programs. We found a lot of communication to the public were brief and created confusion in the community about what is happening with housing and funding for that- the County needs to have clear concise and thorough communication so people know what is going on. 2. Was to support accountability and action - a lot of departments don't have clear accountable goals where they seem to be operating under an ad-hock solution - we want someone appointed outside the Board and JOHS to be accountable to the houseless community and broader community since this issue is so large and has so many dollars to it. Make the actions and gaps more clear so there can be accountability. 3. We noticed a lot of County employees don't have a lot of experience working with or being in the houseless community, so we recommend the county require employees to work hands on with houseless efforts and not be penalized in their year end reviews for taking time to work in the shelters. 4. We recommended to increase interdepartmental communication. The last one (5) is that as you all know the City of Portland has been taking a lot of airtime on their plans for houseless folks and what that will do is push houseless folks out into other parts of the County, so we recommend the County work with other cities in the County and other Counties to work together on responding- that the City doesn't determine the COunty's work.

Jenny shared that she loved the recommendations from the Housing group, and loves there recommendation statements like "grounded in reality" - she loved reading this and especially liked the homeless czar recommendation and the responsibility they;re putting back on the County. Richard responded thanks for the group for all the work and learning so much. Jenny's comment is to explain the **acronym APRA**

Richard shared thanks for everyone's work on these. KA shared that Lakeitha shared that Patrick shared he's not sure about voting for things since he wasn't in the subcommittee- he thinks it was unfair for the group to make the effort for someone else

Vote:

5: Richard, Jenny, Patrick, Lung Wah, Ta' Neshia, Angel

Add form votes here later:

4: Kristina (form)

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5: Sasha (email)  
3: Kimberlea (form)

7:40-7:45 **Public Comment: No public comment**

7:45-8:00 **Closing**

- End-of-CIC-year get together in June: KA will send out a scheduling poll! Outdoor in-person
  - Come in person, send photo of yourself for a collage
  - Question: Food ordered, Potluck?
- KA to keep you in the loop on upcoming Board appointments and briefings!
- KA will be following
- Upcoming events and opportunities to be involved over the summer
  - KA: if you are interested in helping onboard new members and/or prepare for the next CIC year please contact KA!
  - (JR?) volunteer awards, other meetings?
  - KA to send out memo versions of these and past recommendations
- Next official meeting: September retreat!
  - Please stay tuned for a retreat in August or September - we are planning an in-person retreat and will ask if anyone is not comfortable attending in person
  - Potential CIC Survey ?
  - Trying to identify an outside facilitator
- Thank you Malcolm who is terming out! Any thoughts from everyone on this year?
- Any upcoming community events to share?
- Appreciations for this meeting and/or this year?

**Agreements Final Draft:**

**Community Agreements FY23**

- Acknowledge intent, address impact
  - Listen to understand
  - What is said here stays, what is learned here leaves
  - Think intentionally about what you want to say before sharing
  - Speak from your own experience and prioritize using “I” statements
  - Consider earned/unearned privileges that inform lived experiences
  - Be willing to make mistakes and be accountable for missteps
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- Move up, move back - elevate your participation, elevate your reflection
  - Accept and make space for different participation levels and styles
  - Take breaks and prioritize what you need to be fully present
  - Celebrate everyone's accomplishments

### **Meeting Expectations**

- Come to meetings prepared to participate
- Please let the Committee know if you will not be able to attend CIC meetings (it is assumed that Committee members will attend meetings unless they say otherwise).

### **JAMBOARD**

### **Zoom Transcript:**