



CITY OF KEIZER
COMMUNITY DIVERSITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
January 5, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Laura Reid called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:

Present:

Laura Reid, Vice Chair
Benita Picazo
Shaney Starr
Tammy Kunz
Nevaeh Music
Markey Toomes

Absent:

Kim Freeman (resigned)
Kacey McCallister (resigned)
Carrie Brown

Staff:

Tim Wood, Assistant City Manager
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBER TAMMY KUNZ: Vice Chair Reid welcomed new member Tammy Kunz to the Committee and acknowledged receipt of resignations from Kim Freeman and Kacey McCallister.

ELECTION OF CHAIR/VICE CHAIR: Laura Reid and Benita Picazo were elected by unanimous consent to serve as Chair and Vice Chair respectively. Chair Reid indicated that she would inform Councilors Kohler and Husseman of resignations so that they could appoint new members.

Discussion took place regarding Council appointment of committee members vs. the standard process done through the Volunteer Coordinating Committee. Staff informed committee members that they would need to make a recommendation to Council if they want to change the process and Council would make the final decision. Following lengthy discussion and input from all members, it was agreed that the appointment process should remain unchanged. Shaney Starr suggested that a consultant could review the process and suggest improvement as well as helping the committee move forward.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Shaney Starr moved for approval of the November Minutes. Tammy Kunz seconded. Motion passed as follows: Reid, Picazo, Starr and Music in favor with Kunz and Toomes abstaining and Freeman, McCallister and Brown absent.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS: *R.J. Navarro* praised the committee and asked that it consider changing the City Council voting process from At-Large to District in order to be more inclusive and ensure that one Council member would be from the southeast Keizer area. He suggested that if neighborhood associations were given more money they could print flyers in multiple languages in order to communicate with a wider population and that getting participation in neighborhood association meetings would be a first step in connecting Council and City Hall with the population.

Mr. Navarro added that the Southeast Keizer Community Center has events every Friday night at the Mennonite Church where childcare and food are provided in order to support the community and help people connect with each other. Chair Reid encouraged him to tell people at the Community Center to be in touch with the Council Liaisons for the neighborhood associations so that they can get the word out.

BEGIN PLANNING KEIZER’S 40TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION:

When: June 16-18
Where: Community Center and/or Keizer Rapids Park
What: Booths, Time Capsule, Dedication of Rosie’s Cows, Tours to Landmarks, Scavenger Hunt w/pictures of landmarks, Softball Game, Volleyball Game, Food Carts, Vendors, Booths for/Presentations by Community Groups, Talent Show, Video History, Car Show, Keizer Community Band, Dance Groups, Skate Competition, Chocolate Cake Contest, Pie Eating Contest
Participants: Food Vendors, Keizer Community Library, Museum, Home Grown Theater, CERT, Humane Society, Recruiting Organizations, Veteran Organizations, Catholic Community Services, School Groups, Music Groups, Fire District, Tribes, Police Department/Cadets, Bikeways (Bike Rodeo), Marion County Fire/Rescue

Discussion included the need to work with the Chamber to make sure there would not be a lot of overlap with KeizerFest, working with neighborhood associations, placing booths at scavenger hunt locations, doing something similar to Neighborhood Night Out, having the event at one location vs. spread out. Use of the internet and social media was discussed with the possibility of setting up a separate website dedicated to the party including something more youth oriented like Instagram. The need for donations and/or sponsors was also discussed.

Councilors Kohler and Reid are the project managers and the Community Diversity Engagement Committee is the coordinating body. The first step will be to get the word out. Depending on how many participants there are, the event may be one or two days long.

OTHER BUSINESS/STAFF LIAISON REPORT: Mr. Wood reported that a list of 8-10 consultants has been compiled but most of them are out of state. Ms. Starr suggested that the League of Oregon Cities, DEI Specific Department at Portland State and the Center for Equity and Inclusion out of Portland be contacted. She noted that Buffalo Consulting out of Oregon City might be an option and suggested that the initial goal be to hire someone to work through the organizational process and then figure out what the committee would be doing over the next few years.

ADJOURN Meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Next meeting: February 2, 2023

Approved: 02-02-23