

Community Involvement Committee

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 12, 2024 | Location Zoom

Attending Committee Members: Ren Lum, Calvin Hoff, Brian Romer, Hannah Waters, Janette Clay, Mia Goros, Susan Novak

Attending Staff: Marco Mejia Yepez, Cayla McGrail

Agenda

Welcome + Introductions (5:00)

LGBTQ+ Historic Sites Project

The City of Portland's <u>LGBTQ+ Historic Sites Project</u>, led by the <u>Historic Resources Program</u>, recently concluded its 2022-2024 grant funded phase. It completed documentation and contextualization of selected sites associated with LGBTQ+ history, nomination of sites to the National Register of Historic Places, and publication of an online interactive map. The project previously engaged with the CIC in 2022 and 2023 and has returned to share a final project report, lessons learned, and engage in conversation that may inform future Historic Resources Program projects.

CIC Discussions & Feedback

Engagement Approaches

- CIC agreed it best to have City staff involved engagement. This creates more accountability and trust / relationship building between the public and City staff
- Identify metric/ measurements to understand what impacts the project engagement

Engagement Methodology

- Create more open communication throughout the project
 - Provide expectations upfront
 - Explain why certain advisory committee decisions were not implemented
 - Create a space that all feel welcome to speak in. This is especially important for those who have previously been denied avenues to speak and inform City process.
- Balance of information to inform / educate the public on the project and to invite participation in the project
- Identify best practices from other projects to inform future projects' engagement process



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Community Involvement Committee Business

The CIC has participated in ongoing discussions concerning the role of advisory bodies as the City of Portland transitions to a new form of government.

CIC Discussions

Role of Advising the City

The role of the CIC is to ensure the city is accountable to citizens by assisting staff who undertake engagement.

- How can the City be accountable to advisory boards?
- How can bureaus be held accountable for giving feedback and decisions back to advisory groups?
- How can the CIC enforce actions?

CIC's Proactive Role in Advising the City

- Start with a project early on to identify goals and milestones to hold the project team accountable.
- Continue to work with the same project throughout its development to ensure engagement is meeting the agreed upon goals.
- Collaborate with committee staff to gauge interest of project staff who want to present at CIC
- Collaborate with committee staff to suggest what aspects of a project to bring forward at CIC
- Create more efficiency in CIC meetings
 - Develop a sort of survey to send out to project managers ahead of the meeting to better
 - Questions center around: What has worked and what hasn't worked for the project thus far; What does the project team expect engagement to result in?
 - Send this supporting material in advance to CIC members to ensure better understanding of the project and inform CIC questions to the project team
 - o CIC members send back questions that are forwarded to the project team
 - Project team prepares answers for CIC
 - CIC can better encourage planners to move beyond typical information dissemination to have the public participate in meaningful ways, ultimately giving decision making over to communities
- Invite community members who are working with project teams to be part of the conversation
 - IE. Invite Albina Vision to be apart of the presentation on the Reconnecting Albina Project

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- Schedule meetings with new City Council members
 - o The premise of the transition is to have more engagement with Council than previously
 - o CIC desire to have a list of questions and meeting objectives
 - o Meetings could start with one district and rotate through each district

Action Items / Follow Ups

- Send meeting minutes
- Send agenda for December 10 meeting

Adjourn (7:05 PM)

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