

April 2019 - SE Uplift Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendance:

Board Members:

- Reuben Deumling
- Suleyman Nor
- Kelly Quinlan
- Terry Dublinski-Milton
- Miguel Rodriguez
- Abby Ball
- Paul Willey
- Mary Barrett
- Kristiana Nelson
- Lotus Romey-Yu
- Daniel Amoni
- Matchu Williams
- Sam Nobel
- Nadyne Rosen
- Brian Hochhalter
- Tina Kimmey
- Christopher Bacher
- Elizabeth Milner and Bob Buckholder

Staff:

- Molly Mayo

Guests:

- Mo Badgerdeen

Introductions and Announcements:

- Terry Dublinski-Milton is running to be a member of the CCIM Project Oversight Committee
- April 18th 7:00 - 8:30 Alternative sidewalk designs at the BDNA Community Center
- Garage Sale at the Eastmorland neighborhood. June 22 & 23rd
- Co-sponsoring Easter Egg hunt with SMILE
- April 27th is the East Tabor / South Tabor Neighborhood Cleanup 9:00 - 2:00
- Miguel Rodriguez is doing a series of workshops in May aimed to target latinos identify people and those interested in the culture in the area. Look for more information.
- April 27th at the South Tabor 9:00 - 12:00
- Issues with Community Centers shutdown threat again. The office of Community and Civic life requests that we preserve community centers in order to keep grant funding flowing

Guest Presentation: Boys and Girls Aid:

Non-profit that is based in portland that focuses on care that foster care can not provide. They recruit foster-parents and are here to share what they do and the dire need for parents in the

area. Oregon is in a foster care crisis and is one of the worst nationally. Oregon is about 500 beds short for kids and are sleeping wherever and this only adds to the trauma of being pulled from the family. 1 in 5 of them become homeless and 63 times more likely to be incarcerated. Early help is necessary to keep them out of sad situations later in life. There are tons of life skill programs and transitional living programs and resources that we provide so we set kids up for as much success as possible.

There are two programs that they currently want to highlight need for.

The Nest: Emergency placement program for kids in hotels. Usually they are more difficult and have been through the system a few times. This is detrimental to their well being and outlook. They are usually high behaviour issue children and have the most severe cases of neglect. They are looking for experience with high needs and those that can interact with children that have had this type of drama.

Question: What are the responsibilities needed for someone to be a foster parent.

Answer: Kiddo between 4 - 10 with some big behaviour problems. They are looking for families to stay with the kids between 1 - 3 months (usually longer to develop a long term plan). Usually they go to school in an alternative school solution.

Step: Teens that have gotten into trouble with the law and are having their home-life investigated. Usually they are about to age out of the foster care system. About 70% of the kids in this program go back into care with their family after they have gone through the program.

Question: Are there any other programs:

Answer: Volunteer in MANY ways. Once a month there is a hairdresser that comes and do free haircuts for every child in the program. We work with all volunteers to use their strengths.

We also do back-to-school drives for supplies, cooked food for foster families etc...

Question: Is there more to the problem than funding?

Answer: Understaffed and under resourced DHS issues. We get referrals from DHS and caseworkers. We have more training and resources for these types of issues.

Requirements for foster parents:

Pass background check

21 +

Spare bedroom

Be able to support and provide a safe and clean home for kid(s)

Guest Presentation: Cascadia Clusters:

There are several key pillars that a functioning and health village has

Self-Governance

Helps people to use peer leadership and support to lift themselves up

Service Provision

City sanctioned service provider to get licenses, haircuts etc

Individual Advocacy

They are volunteers who are there to hold the services provider and city to task

Complete Infrastructure

Water

Electricity

Micro-Enterprise

5 of the 14 people are employed trainees to enable the village to be beholden to themselves and create the community that has the vision that they want. It also provides a bridge for the residence to have the resources to contribute to society and graduate.

What do we do? We build villages? We work to maintain sustainability and have our CCD license and are a 501.c3 in order to accept donations and work. They are looking for donations and construction work.

Formation of Membership Committee:

There are some potentially vacant slots coming up for re-election. The task before us is to do the work towards making this happen. They will report back to the board in July where the finalists will be voted on in the meeting and we will discuss their candidacy.

Sam Noble

Tina Kimmey

Abby Ball

Reuben Deumling

Miguel Rodriguez

Study and Potential Relocation of Rail Yards:

Mo Badgerdeen and Terri got to talking about the concept of removing all the switching from the Brooklyn and Albina rail yards.

There is a hope to remove all at-grade crossings in the city if this moves forward. The proposal would enable us to remove the two intermodal facilities in Portland. The issues are that the train companies are not as efficient as they need it to be. Due to planned increases in the near term there is not any way to decrease the load of these facilities. That being said there are other places that this operation can be moved to. This study is the first step required to get the ball rolling in requesting that

There are two conceptual plans up for debate:

- Albina
- Albina + Brooklyn

Question: How interdependent are these two yards? Is this sunk if we do one and not the other?

Answer: Both yards are switch yards and the linkages between the yards is unknown.

Question: Could TriMet do this?

Answer: We don't have time for the massive delay due to public burredness on this issue. This really has to come from the private sector

Question: What is the land area of these two yards?

Answer: Albina is 215 Acres and Brooklyn 110 acres and Union Pacific is out of land there.

Question: What is the potential place this could move to?

Answer: There are some potential places they could go. Barns Yard is the most likely as well as Hinkle Yard

Question: What's next?

Answer: UP takes this and then there is additional funding from the federal government.

Question: What is the scope of the city? Is there an environmental impact study for this?

Answer:

Question: What is the money commitment thus far?

Answer: Verbal agreement for 6500

Proposal to have SEUplift match funds

4000 Overlook

Brooklyn (2500) hopefully

Eastmorland agenda this month (annual meeting for the members)

We as a board have a couple of sources of funds. There are some sources

Motion by Sam Nobel on the table for SEUplift to match the contribution made towards the study from any source one dollar for every two pledge up to a max of 7000 pending a treasurer's report.

All members voted in favor except one
zero opposed
One abstention (Christopher Bacher)

Break:

Approve March Meeting Minutes:

Update to amend minutes as amended by Brian Hochhalter
Motion 2n by Lotus Romey
All in favor
0 against
Four abstention

Vote on Support for PUAH / SEUL Partnership

Portland United Against Hate Coalition consists of 65 groups who focus on the issue are moving away from OCCL hosted and moving towards another parent organization. SE Uplift was considered to be that soliton however there have been some changes in the direction here. They have identified several other community organizations as potential partners. PUAH is working to determine which community partner is a best fist for their program. Their current thinking is that they would like to go with a fiscal sponsorship model instead of an employee model.

If they pursue a relationship with us it would be in those terms.

Question: Is this the same as the independent contractor terminology used before
Answer: Yes

The goal tonight is to vote as a board if we want to continue this relationship with Portland United Against Hate. This is a big coalition and would add quite a bit of overhead for staff.

Motion by Terri to pursue the relationship with PUAH in a pre-approval status.
Motion 2nd by Christopher Bacher

Question: Any impact to our budget that we should be aware of?

Answer: Working on pulling this up.

Mention that PUAH is developing teams to respond to hate crimes quickly. The intention is to provide a buffer between police response and provide support to augment training gaps by the police. This.

Once vote in abstention (SMILE)

Introduction to Current Legislation and Options for SEUL Advocacy

Many partner non-profits take a varying amount of response and involvement in bills and legislation. There is a conception that nonprofits are not allowed to take a stand on legislation. They can not support a candidate but can do other actions. Many others in the area are doing this. Some are strongly lobbying and advocating for some bills.

If you look at the back agenda there are some bills and topics that we could consider endorsing in some way.

House Bill 2846 (Voted on by LUTC)

This is the orphaned highways bill. It would create a fund and a process to get these highways moved over from ODOT to PBOT or other city transportation division control.

SB 755 - Hate Crimes

Research done by the Attorney General. It outlines robust data collection on biased incidents. Hate crimes are on the rise and has gone up much more in Oregon.

HB 2007 - Diesel Bill

Adopts emissions standards for Heavy and Medium duty trucks and has tighter registration requirements. This bill would bring us towards the standards that are consistent with Washington and California

HB 2509 - Welcoming Refugees Bill

This bill would protect refugee resettlement services in Oregon. Historically this was done by the federal government. It would provide support and resolution, health care and response following incidence of hate crimes and learning programs tailored to the needs of the refugees. It would provide 4.5 million for support

Oregon Green New Deal

Make meaningful climate actions to mitigate effects of climate change. It would protect vulnerable communities and transition into a renewable future.

Motion to endorse HB 2846 2nd by Nadeen

Brian Hochhalter, Christopher Bacher and Abby abstain from the vote

Proposal to have a procedure that would:

- Someone becomes point person
- Request a board vote on action for the issue
- Person writes letter / or contacts the organization giving our support

Grievance Appeal:

Findings Regarding Richmond NA Feb 2019 Grievance Appeal

Vote by the board on the issue of the Grievance as recommended by the grievance committee.

In favor -- 11

Opposed -- Daniel Anmi

Abstain 4 -- (Brian, Miguel , Reuben, Abby)

Final report to be written and sent out shortly.

Meeting Adjourn -- 9:17PM