



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE TUALATIN CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING FOR NOVEMBER 28, 2022

Present: Mayor Frank Bubenik, Council President Nancy Grimes, Councilor Bridget Brooks, Councilor Maria Reyes, Councilor Valerie Pratt, Councilor Cyndy Hillier

Absent: Councilor Christen Sacco

Mayor Bubenik called the work session to order at 5:45 p.m.

1. Equity Committee Planning Group Report.

Councilor Hillier stated the Council put this planning group together last fall to have discussions on how to form a permanent Equity Committee. Equity Committee Planning Group Members Bella Raymond, Rachel Greenough, Valerie Holt, and BJ Park presented their final report. Member Raymond explained the planning group structure stating there were 17 members who came together to help build the structure of the permanent Tualatin Equity Committee. She stated they met six times between June and November 2022. Member Holt stated during the span of their meetings they discussed each members motivation to be part of the group, looked at other cities and how their committees were formed, made presentations of individual research, held small group facilitations, and made recommendations for final language. Member Park stated the groups area of focus where the permanent committees name, number of members, composition of membership, committee positions, and powers and duties. He stated the recommended name is the Tualatin Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access Committee (Tualatin IDEA Committee). Member Park stated their recommendation is that there should be a nine to thirteen member appointed committee that would serve three-year terms. Member Greenough spoke to the composition of membership stating there should be one voting youth member (high school aged), no more than two members who reside outside city limits, and a non-voting City Council liaison. She shared the exact recommended language regarding the composition of membership. Member Greenough shared the recommended committee positions including two co-chairs appointed by the committee on an annual basis, a secretary position, a task force leader, and participation from non-profits and other subject matter experts as needed. She stated the powers and duties of the committee would be to research and increase areas of opportunity and access, establish goals and objectives, measure success towards accomplishing established goals and objectives, and engage with the community. Member Holt stated the committees areas of focus could include the land acknowledgement, English as a second language courses, and civic education. Member Park stated some barriers and strategies for addressing access and inclusion issues include dealing with concrete barriers such as transportation and childcare by offering stipends, inclusion strategies such as marketing materials in multiple languages, and transparency in process. Member Raymond shared the purpose of the Equity Committee Planning Group. She stated the committee is recommending the adoption of the Tualatin IDEA Committee as presented.

Councilor Reyes stated she is proud of the work and the results of the committee. She thanked the committee for taking the time and being dedicated to the formation of the permanent committee.

Councilor Reyes asked if there are recommended term limits for committee members. Member Holt stated they left that decision to the Council so they could make the best decisions on the diversity of members.

Councilor Pratt thanked the committee for the work they have done. She asked if the committee name should include “advisory” as it will be advising the council. Councilor Pratt asked why a youth position wasn’t specifically carved out. Member Greenough stated the grouping of members was focused on marginalized communities and noted youth members are important as well.

Councilor Brooks stated she is happy to see this move forward and thanked the committee for their hard work. She asked the members about their experience in the process. Member Holt stated the lack of time was their biggest challenge but in the end they reached their final goal. Member Park stated he liked meeting and learning from the different community members. Member Greenough stated it was a powerful experience to be a part of and she sees so much potential for the future committee. Member Raymond stated it was a safe space to share experiences and she is excited for the future committee.

Council President Grimes thanked the committee for their leadership and work. She would like to see the future committee have a public comment section on the agenda so ideas, concerns, and roadblocks can be heard by the group.

Mayor Bubenik shared his appreciation for everyone’s effort, thoroughness, and insight on the committee. He is proud of the product they have produced and he looks forward to the committee being put in place.

Member Park stated anyone with ideas should be allowed to participate in this committee so that it is truly an inclusive and open group for everyone.

2. Council Meeting Agenda Review, Communications, and Roundtable.

Councilor Brooks stated she attended the National League of Cities Conference and the Parks Advisory Committee meeting.

Councilor Pratt stated she attended the C4 Metro meeting and the Climate Action Planning meeting.

Councilor Reyes invited everyone to attend The Posada event on December 7, 6pm, at the Library.

Mayor Bubenik stated he attended the Greater Portland Inc. Economic Development District meeting, the Westside Economic Alliance meeting, the Greater Portland Inc. Board meeting, the Metro Mayors Consortium meeting, and the Supportive Housing Services presentation.

Adjournment

Mayor Bubenik adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Sherilyn Lombos, City Manager

_____ / Nicole Morris, Recording Secretary

_____ / Frank Bubenik, Mayor