



IDEA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

January 13, 2026

Present: Sunni Case Armstrong, Kelsea Ashenbrenner, Emily Baker, Laura Engberson, Kolini Fusitu'a, Nina Ichikawa, Chris Paul, Samantha Peterson, Maia Schroeder, Erinn Stimson, Councilor Christen Sacco

Absent: Evelin Hooper, Gerry Preston

Public:

Staff: Betsy Rodriguez Ruef, Community Engagement Coordinator
Jerianne Thompson, Library Director / Equity & Inclusion Officer

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chris Paul called the meeting to order at 6:18 PM.

B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chris Paul called for any corrections to the December minutes. Erinn Stimson moved to accept the December 2025 meeting minutes; Emily Baker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. **COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Co-Chairs: Chris Paul reported that the committee's Annual Report presentation was well received by City Council.

2. Council Liaison: Councilor Christen Sacco shared concerns raised about affordable and accessible senior housing at last month's Housing Forum. She said the City will be conducting a Housing Needs and Capacity Analysis this year. TriMet is considering service cuts that will impact public transportation in Tualatin. Sacco shared information about the upcoming open house TriMet will host in Tualatin and encouraged committee members to participate in TriMet's survey. She also said that information from last month's Night of Impact training was shared with City Council.

3. Staff: Jerianne Thompson shared information about food insecurity, including a recent report from the United States Department of Agriculture that said 1 in 8 Oregonians have been experiencing food insecurity, and 1 in 6 children in Oregon. The Tualatin Food Pantry has reported serving a record number of clients during recent weeks. Thompson announced the nominees for committee co-chair: Chris Paul, Kelsea Ashenbrenner, Laura Engberson, Nina Ichikawa, and Sunni Armstrong. Nominees each made a statement about

what they would bring to the position of co-chair. Ballots were distributed to committee members, with results to be reported at the end of the meeting.

Betsy Rodriguez Ruef shared that she and Thompson recently met with Kathleen Sullivan of Tualatin Food Pantry on partnership opportunities. She also recently met with representatives from the African Youth & Community Organization, and she provided information about trainings she and Thompson attended by the organization Right2Be.

4. Public: None.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Annual Report: Chris Paul and Erinn Stimson gave the Annual Report presentation to City Council on January 12. Committee members discussed the presentation and comments from Councilors.

2. Community Groups: This topic was tabled.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Chachalu Field Trip: This topic was tabled.

2. Proclamations: Jerianne Thompson provided information about the City's Proclamation Policy and shared the list of cultural and topical proclamations pre-approved by City Council for 2026. She also shared a list of other cultural and topical celebration dates, drafted by Chris Paul, that could be considered for proclamations. Committee members discussed proclamation topics of interest; Nina Ichikawa suggested connecting with affinity groups at Tualatin High School, when relevant.

3. Proclamation for Transgender Day of Visibility: Chris Paul and Emily Baker shared a draft proclamation. Baker said that although transgender and nonbinary individuals are not separate groups, it is important to name both groups in discussing the discrimination they face. Paul said the intent of Transgender Day of Visibility is to stand up, to recognize and value transgender people. Committee members discussed suggested changes to the text, with consensus to keep strong language, and they discussed creating a presentation to accompany the proclamation that details the legal protections transgender and nonbinary people in our community have, with data about the threats they currently face. To reduce the text to one page, Paul moved to amend the proclamation, combining statements about transgender and nonbinary people having access to gender-affirming healthcare, participation as authentic selves in public school, and participation in community activities including sports being valued and protected in Tualatin into one statement. Baker seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. Maia Schroeder moved to recommend the Transgender Day of Visibility Proclamation to City Council; Baker seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Co-chair Election: Chris Paul and Sunni Armstrong were elected as co-chairs, with 7 votes each.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Community Groups
2. Chachalu Field Trip

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Laura Engberson requested time on the February agenda for the committee to brainstorm ways to help community members impacted by recent federal actions, to protect and maintain Tualatin's diversity.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Minutes prepared by Jerianne Thompson & Betsy Ruef, staff