

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday, September 4, 2019 (6:30 - 8:30 p.m.)

Tualatin River Room, 3rd Floor, City Hall – The Beaverton Building 12725 SW Millikan Way

Commission Attendees: Moneer Afzal (At-Large Member), Farrah Chaichi, Tonia Cottrell, Mercy Henderson, Dori King, Jarrod Shaw, Stephanie Somanchi, and Kossikan Yawo (Chair)

City Council Attendees: Cate Arnold (City Councilor)

Police Department Attendees: Darren Fletchall (Police Department Liaison)

Staff Attendees: Paolo Esteban (Staff Liaison), Megan Cohen and Chris Ayzoukian

Members of the Public: Lisa Stiller(member of the Beaverton Committee for Community Involvement)

AGENDA

Minutes Approval Kossikan called for changes to the minutes and then for the minutes to be approved. The minutes were approved;

Public Participation

Lisa from the Beaverton Committee for Community Involvement (BCCI) provided details on the BCCI Land Use Summit on Saturday, September 21, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Beaverton Library. She also shared the peace pole dedication community experiences that will take place on Wednesday, September 18th and September 22nd. Tonia, Mercy, Cate, and Stephanie will attend the Sunday September 22nd 2-7 p.m. and support an HRAC booth.

City Update – Paolo Esteban, Staff Liaison

Paolo reviewed the Welcoming Week events.





Beaverton Restaurant Week is coming up from September 26 to October 6th. The City has a website with more information about the event. Click [here](#) for details.

Council Update – Councilor Cate Arnold

Juan Carlos from Metro came to council last night to discuss a transportation property tax that will be on the November ballot. Metro is working on finalizing the details of the plan ---- how much the tax will be and what areas need to be addressed.

The Mary Ann is the first project to draw from Beaverton’s share of the \$31 million regional housing bond that was approved by Metro voters last year.

Supplemental Materials: [Slideshow](#) presented to City Council about The Mary Ann House in March 2019

The Arthur Murray building will become a 50% plant based restaurant (the city purchased the building when Arthur Murray moved out.)

The police center construction continues.

We continue to work on creating a walkable downtown so that people can access TriMet trains.

The owner of Curiosities: A Vintage Mall has found a place to move and the city has offered him \$25K to store his goods.

Police Department Updates – Lieutenant Darren Fletchall

The next [car seat clinic](#) is scheduled for September 21, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Kuni Auto Center.

Last Month’s National Night Out was the “most productive one” that Lt. Fletchall has attended. Many community members attended.

The Beaverton Police Officers participated in the 4th Annual shop with a cop at Fred Meyer. Students that need advice are paired with police officers and shop at Fred Meyers. The majority of

the kids are referrals from officers that encounter families that lack access to the physical resources to support them getting ready to attend school. The School District and homeless shelters help pay for the event. On the shopping day \$1300 in additional donations came in.

Chris Ayzoukian, the director of the Patricia Reser Center for the Arts provided Information about the Center

The goals of the Patricia Reser Center for the Arts:

- Build a gathering place in Beaverton
- Revitalize downtown Beaverton
- Build a welcoming center that reflects the Beaverton Community
- Increase access to arts in Washington County
- Make Beaverton a destination
- A performance space for local arts groups
- Increase philanthropy in the Beaverton area

"The journey starts when we open the doors." – Chris Ayzoukian

"Residents have been asking for this [a performing arts center]. ~ Chris Ayzoukian

The Patricia Reser center for the Arts includes:

- 5050-seat theater
- Dressing Rooms
- An Art Gallery
- The Pavilion
- Outdoor Plaza
- The Lab

"The design is based on creating an accessible arts center." ~ Chris Ayzoukian

"The arts are a tool to bring people together. It is a place to raise awareness about social justice issues. It's not just about arts and entertainments it's about raising awareness." ~ Chris Ayzoukian

The City of Beaverton is funding this project via the lodging tax (48% of the funding), Private Pledges (49% of the funding), and the remaining amount to raise is \$3.5 million (through private donations). The total project budget is \$46 million. Revenue bonds do not have to be voted on by the general public.

Chris' two questions:

What should we make sure not to miss?

What would you like to see at the Center?

The commission offered a few responses:

- Access to youth at little or no charge
- Inclusive programming that reflects the community

Note: Chris' presentation accompanies these notes and if council members would like to add more responses to these questions they can respond [here](#).

Human Rights Award – Kossikan Yawo

The following people were nominated:

Mehreen Krueger is a veteran teacher that has pushed the district into thinking about a culturally relevant curriculum. She has advocated for families having access to resources.

Sheila Greenlaw Fink created the Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH). She has helped to humanize the houseless and she has been doing this work for 34 years and has supported women in the housing field. Her group did the affordable housing at the Barcelona.

Sho Shigeoka has worked tirelessly to support educational equity in the Beaverton School District in her role as the Director of Equity and Inclusion.

Human Rights ED, Immigration & Safety – Kossikan Yawo

Kossikan offered the group this question to begin a conversation that will continue:

How could HRAC be helpful to immigrants and refugees that are feeling targeted?

Some thoughts that surfaced:

- Is there the possibility to work with DAB at least once a year to share what we are working on?
- Kossikan offered this potential vision statement for HRAC: respect, protect, and promote the right of all people in the City of Beaverton.
- The challenge to hearing about immigrants and refugee's struggles. To hear about these trust has to be built with people that identify as immigrants and refugees. Perhaps a way of building trust is sending a know your rights mailer from the City of Beaverton.
- Kossikan shared that the Human Right Commission of Washington County will have their first listening session on September 26th.

Subcommittee Notes

o Human Rights Education

The group has two teachers that are interested in work with HRAC members and have the Human Rights Curriculum taught in their classrooms. The group plans on teaching the lessons in October.

o Housing Insecurity

Megan Cohen, the Community Services Coordinator for the City of Beaverton, joined the group and provided a history of the work on housing access that has taken place in the city. She oversees all the activities related to homelessness. Megan has been with the city for six years. For her Masters degree studies Megan, analyzed the community services program in Beaverton and found that more intentional programming would help the community.

The city uses community-based organizations to support the following programs:

- Beaverton Severe Weather Shelter Beginning its 4th year. Implemented with Just Compassion. Has space for 30 adults November-March during the year.
- Partnership with Family Promise offers housing to families in need of housing. Provide a site out of a city building. Switches off housingfamilies needed access among local churches.
- Both of the above are in partnership with Washington County (in-take through Community Connect).
- Safe parking program began at the beginning of this year. Staff looked at best practices in Eugene and launched at three sites with three spaces at each site. The hope is to add one more site by the end of the year. Just Compassion runs the in-take.
- Megan outlined the challenges: there is not a permanent shelter in the city and the sustainability and stabilization of current programs requires more volunteers. This is the biggest current need ----- volunteers. People advocate for the programs and then there is a lack of participation.
- Need to address zoning issues to maintain the programs.

- October meetings will need people to support rezoning with the Planning Commission discussions about changing zoning. [Work session 9/25 and then work sessions in October]
- Racialized disparity with experiences around housing access and housing stability.
- Outreach worker contracted to work at the library for 20 hours per week to work on housing issues is an important element of the services.

Visioning for housing access through the DAB plan includes:

- Permanent shelter
- 24 hour restrooms
- A day center for support
- Library has a law librarian – support of landlord tenant issues is an immediate goal

Question: Why are families not welcome at the severe weather shelters?

Megan: The family shelters will not turn anyone away during inclement weather. Megan is working with Family Promise to take nonregistered family. Limit of 3-4 families and to receive service families must have a child in the Beaverton School District. It is an option to put families in a temporary housing situation and then move to a more permanent spot. Victim services program has been sharing resources.

The housing group asked this question during their August 2019 meeting:

How might a forum help inform the community about housing insecurity?

The group will have some members attend the BCCI forum to see what information is offered.

8:30 p.m. The Meeting Adjourned

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVISORY COMMISSION www.BeavertonOregon.gov/HRAC Paolo Esteban, Equity Specialist, 503-526-2439, Pesteban@BeavertonOregon.gov

ADA Notice: This information is available in large print upon request and assistive listening devices or sign language interpreters are available at any public meeting with five days advance notice.

