



IDEA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

February 18, 2025

Present: Sunni Case Armstrong, Kelsea Ashenbrenner, Rebekah Morgan, Chris Paul, Gerry Preston, Erinn Stimson, Councilor Christen Sacco

Absent: Destini Barajas, Angelica Butler, Kolini Fusitu'a, Evelin Hooper, Winnie Lo, BJ Park

Public: None

Staff: Jerianne Thompson, Library Director / Equity & Inclusion Officer
Betsy Rodriguez Ruef, Community Engagement Coordinator
Megan Cohen, City-County Homeless Services Liaison

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chris Paul called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chris Paul called for any corrections to the January minutes. Kelsea Ashenbrenner moved to accept the January 2025 and December 2024 meeting minutes. Erinn Stimson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Co-Chairs: None.

2. Council Liaison: Councilor Christen Sacco shared that City Council adopted a proclamation recognizing Black History Month at its January 27 meeting. Council also heard an update about the construction at Las Casitas Park, scheduled for completion in early 2026, and the Juanita Pohl Center Advisory Committee's annual report. On February 10, Council heard reports from the Washington County Sheriff's Department and the SMART Reading Program.

3. Staff: Betsy Ruef shared an update about the Las Casitas Neighborhood Meeting and Share the Love - a project through Parks and Recreation where blown-glass hearts are hidden at area parks and trails. Jerianne Thompson announced the need to change the committee's May meeting date; she will email committee members to select a new date. She introduced Megan Cohen, who splits time among Tigard, Tualatin, and Sherwood coordinating supportive housing services.

4. Public: None.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Transgender Day of Visibility Proclamation: Chris Paul introduced a proclamation to recognize the Transgender Day of Visibility on March 31. He said he was motivated to request it because transgender people are being dehumanized on the national level, causing fear throughout the LGBTQ+ community. He worked with transgender and nonbinary community members to write the proclamation. Chris moved to recommend the proclamation to be read at City Council on March 24; Rebekah Morgan seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Council Christen Sacco said she will request the proclamation be made annually.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Workplan Topic Prioritization: Because several committee members were absent from the meeting, the committee focused on reviewing the topics in the draft workplan for new committee members. The committee then discussed additional topics to consider for the workplan:

- Funding sustainability for service providers
- Cultivating community through mutual aid
- Committee togetherness

2. Native Land Acknowledgement: Chris Paul asked for the committee's consensus about whether to take up working on an Acknowledgement of Native Land and People as a priority now, or reintroduce it in the future. The majority present indicated support for prioritizing the acknowledgement. Committee members asked about City Council's receptiveness to creating an acknowledgement and other work that might go along with that.

F. NEW BUSINESS

2. Community Resources Webpage: Betsy Ruef reviewed the Community Resources page on the City's website (www.tualatinoregon.gov/community/community-resources). The page is available in English and Spanish. The City is building a new website with a refreshed design and layout which will debut this summer. Committee members shared suggestions for additional resources to consider, including improved accessibility features, adding details from the Tigard-Tualatin School District Community Resource Guide, and tracking analytics. Betsy welcomed committee members to email her with any additional suggestions.

E. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Committee Workplan: The committee will prioritize topics on its workplan at the March meeting.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sunni Armstrong said she would like to organize one or more peaceful gatherings in March before Transgender Visibility Day and asked committee members to contact her if they would like to be involved.

G. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by Jerianne Thompson & Betsy Ruef, staff