



IDEA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 16, 2025

Present: Sunni Case Armstrong, Kelsea Ashenbrenner, Kolini Fusitu'a, Rebekah Morgan, Chris Paul, Gerry Preston (virtual), Cosi Slider, Erinn Stimson, Councilor Christen Sacco

Absent: Evelin Hooper, Winnie Lo, BJ Park

Public:

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

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 April minutes. Kelsea Ashenbrenner moved to accept the April 2025 meeting minutes; Erinn Stimson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

C. COMMUNICATIONS

1. Co-Chairs: Chris Paul asked for committee volunteers to assist with tabling at the Pride Concert scheduled for August 8. Paul also announced the committee had reopened nominations for secretary, receiving one nomination for Kelsea Ashenbrenner. Hearing no other nominations, Paul moved to elect Ashenbrenner as committee secretary; Kolini Fusitu'a seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Council Liaison: Councilor Christen Sacco provided updates about City Council proclamations for Mental Health Awareness Month, Pride Month, and Juneteenth. She also shared that the City is discontinuing meal service by Meals on Wheels at the Juanita Pohl Center; a new provider is being contracted and an improved lunch will be available on Tuesdays and Fridays.

3. Staff: Jerianne Thompson announced that because of a recent advisory opinion issued by the Oregon Government Ethics Commission, the City is changing how we provide food at public meetings. Thompson shared that the Washington County Board of Commissioners is evaluating how to ensure

compliance with federal governmental requirements, including those specified in Executive Orders, pertaining to equity and inclusion. Washington County receives approximately \$130 million in federal funding annually; these funds may be at risk if the County cannot attest to the federal requirements. Gerry Preston asked how other neighboring counties are addressing this issue. Thompson also announced she will be sending out a survey to committee members regarding the final topics needing review on the committee workplan.

Betsy Rodriguez Ruef shared that planning continues for next month's Viva Tualatin event. The quarterly Las Casitas neighborhood meeting will be held next week, with a fire prevention presentation from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue.

4. Public: None.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. None.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Food Carts & Food Cart Pods: Jerianne Thompson reviewed the main points presented by Community Development staff to City Council about food carts in April. The Municipal Code allows food carts within limited parts of the city, not including downtown; food carts may only operate on paved surfaces and meet other standards; and only one food cart is allowed per site except in the Basalt Creek Employment Zone. Food carts require a permit, and there are requirements by the Oregon Health Authority. In discussion, Council provided input on potential code amendments. Committee member discussion included:

- Is the requirement that they be self-contained and not connect to public utilities prohibitive?
- Would like to build on the excitement being created about downtown and the Core Opportunity Reinvestment Area.
- Are there ways to work with partners such as the Tualatin Chamber of Commerce within the current code to explore options and interest?
- Noted the number of employees at Lam, who have limited time for meal breaks and no dining options in proximity.
- How can committee members leverage their role as an advisory committee?

2. Summer Outreach Strategy: Betsy Rodriguez Ruef led a discussion about the committee's opportunities to participate in outreach at City events this summer. The purpose of outreach is to build relationships with community members, to share information about the IDEA Committee, and to learn what matters most to our community. Committee members shared ideas of what is important to communicate, including what the committee does and its impact so far, how the committee advocates for diverse voices and perspectives, offering connection to resources, and ideas for engagement.

3. Officer Election: Secretary: This item was addressed under Communications.

F. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Workplan Topics – Outcomes & Actions**
- 2. Parks & Recreation: Gathering Places**

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kolini Fusitu'a said that the federal government is adding Tonga to the “travel ban” list of countries. Erinn Stimson shared that the annual Dystonia Zoo Walk will be held July 26. Councilor Christian Sacco shared that her family has started a foundation to offer scholarships to people in diversity, equity, and inclusion work.

H. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:48 PM.

Minutes prepared by Jerianne Thompson & Betsy Ruef, staff