

COBI Race Equity Advisory Committee Minutes—February 14, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Lynn Beck, Renni Bispham, Olivia Hall, Caitlin Lombardi

Liaisons present: Ashley Mathews, Jon Quitslund

Equity and Inclusion Manager present: Anshu Wahi

Excused: Jing Fong, Eric Stahl

MOTIONS

January 8, 2025, minutes modified as to when other advisory committees meet.

- **Motion:** I move to approve the modified January 8, 2025, minutes.

Lynn/Olivia: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

- **Motion:** I move to accept the February 14, 2025, agenda.

Caitlin/Olivia: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lisa Neal raised concerns over potential residential density increases as part of the Winslow Sub-area Plan, and the insufficient affordable housing units generated by this.

Barbara Ruys spoke regarding the Race Amity Picnic in June and shared thoughts about REAC's name.

Hannah shared that she was observing and taking notes to help strategize ways to revive Bremerton's race equity initiatives, including the hiring of an equity inclusion community manager.

APPRECIATION FOR DEPARTING REAC MEMBERS

Recognition was given to Brenda Fantroy-Johnson and Raul Camacho for their service on REAC.

THE ELECTION AND REAC

Safety at Meetings – Anshu introduced the agenda item, including alternate REAC meeting times and incident training involving Chief Clark. REAC discussed the topic.

- **Motion:** I move to approve re-scheduling REAC regular meetings to either the 2nd or 4th Monday of the month starting in April. Start-time 3:00 PM.

Caitlin/Renni: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

“Welcoming and Inclusive City” – Anshu introduced and provided information about the agenda item. City Council has reaffirmed the “Welcoming and Inclusive City” resolution and ordinance regarding community policing. REAC discussed the topic.

Executive Orders/Potential Impacts on REAC Workplan – Anshu introduced the agenda item. REAC discussed the workplan revisions and presentation to City Council. Either Olivia or Eric will present.

- **Motion:** I move to present the edited REAC workplan to the City Council on March 18, 2025.

Olivia/Caitlin: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

Possible Restructuring of Task Forces – Olivia introduced the agenda item. REAC discussed, including revisiting the topic quarterly. Winslow Sub-area Plan also will include the Comp Plan. Caitlin added to Outreach/Community Events. Technology task force removed.

Report out item: Council Liaisons will report out to Council on the idea of nonresidents being able to apply and serve on REAC, which would require a code/policy change.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION MANAGER REPORT

Racial Equity Toolkit Training – Anshu introduced the agenda item. The March 6, 2025, REAC Regular Meeting will be a 2-hour training on how to operationalize the racial equity toolkit.

Nonresidents Serving on REAC – Anshu introduced and provided information about the agenda item. REAC discussed the topic.

REGULAR BUSINESS

Bystander Training Update – Anshu introduced the agenda item. Another 1.0 training will be held on March 29, 2025, and a 2.0 training will be held on April 26, 2025. REAC discussed committee participation.

Community Space at 625 Winslow – Lynn introduced and provided information about the agenda item. REAC discussed a desire to be involved with the programming of public/common area spaces and other elements, such as the naming of the building. Lynn and Olivia expressed interest in serving on a 625 Winslow task force. Lynn will send an email/letter on behalf of REAC to City Council to start the process.

Task Force Reports

Guiding Principles – Caitlin introduced the agenda item. REAC will review the memo drafted by Caitlin on guiding principles recommendations. REAC will discuss at the April regular meeting.

Zero Emissions – Lynn introduced and provided information about the agenda item.

- **Motion:** I move to accept the Climate Change Advisory Committee (CCAC) recommendation memo regarding the draft Zero Emission Landscaping Ordinance. The memo will be sent to City Council as a collaborative effort between REAC and CCAC.

Olivia/Renni: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Olivia introduced authoring a letter from REAC to Bremerton's Mayor and City Council in solidarity and support of their DEI efforts in hiring an equity inclusion community manager.

- **Motion:** I move to approve a letter to be sent by REAC to Bremerton's Mayor and City Council.

Renni/Lynn: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1230 PM.