

COBI Race Equity Advisory Committee Minutes—July 14, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

Members present: Lynn Beck, Jing Fong; Olivia Hall, Caitlin Lombardi, Eric Stahl, Dashiell Tibbals

Liaisons: Ashley Mathews (via Zoom), Jon Quitslund

Also present: E&I Manager Anshu Wahi

MOTIONS

Motion to accept June 9 minutes – approved unanimously

Motion to accept agenda as presented—approved unanimously

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE

Olivia disclosed that she is working on a city council candidate’s campaign

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

WELCOME NEW REAC MEMBER

New member Dashiell Tibbals was introduced.

REGULAR BUSINESS

a. REAC Officers

Olivia was nominated as co-chair (Eric, Jing). Approved unanimously

Caitlin was nominated as co-chair (Olivia, Jing). Approved unanimously

Eric nominated and unanimously approved as secretary.

Lynn to serve as deputy secretary.

b. Onboarding New Members

Anshu discussed a new document created by city staff for expectations for city volunteers. Dashiell will review, and access GARE material

c. National Night Out

Caitlin and Eric reported on a meeting with city staff and BIPD officers regarding REAC’s potential participation at the BI National Police Night Out event August 5. The meeting focused on the need for building trust between communities and law enforcement, and what

REAC’s participation would look like. Some members expressed reservations about whether attending would be the right fit for the work we are doing. The committee did not reach a consensus on participating this year, though individual members may attend.

d. Task Force Reports

Dashiell to join the affordable housing and comp. plan task forces

i. Guiding Principles

Caitlin has continued to draft and circulate points for discussion. She and Eric will continue to work on this with an eye toward circulating to the committee in September.

ii. Affordable Housing

Lynn and Olivia discussed the proposed project at 625 Winslow Way, to be built by LIH. REAC has been invited to have input. Discussion was held around upcoming community meetings and council study sessions and project funding

iii. Zero Emissions

The City Council decided in June not to adopt the zero emissions ordinance and to “pause” further action. Mayor Matthews indicated community support was lacking due to concerns over inconvenience and economic impacts. Jing noted there had been very little outreach with affected communities. Discussion was held around the issues raise earlier in the joint REAC/CACC advisory memo; some of the recommendations were adopted, but not the key equity recommendations.

iv. Outreach/Community events

- Email list: Jing has the list; we are working on assembling a comprehensive list
- Juneteenth debrief: Anshu reported the event had a good flow, event was well received. It was good to have a single visioning meeting, and to synch with the Bremerton event.
- Pride debrief: our table received enthusiastic support. People were happy to see us there
- Farmer's Market — Olivia and Dashiell to attend August 16. We also have a table September 20
- Indigenous People's Day — This will be Oct. 13 at Woodward. Organization is already in the works. This overlaps with REAC’s October meeting, which we are rescheduling.
- Healing Equity United Training — this is moving forward Nov. 22

e. City Council Meeting Report

Lynn reported that the council's June 17 study session discussed the process for the 2026 lodging tax and for cultural funding awards, and that the scoring review for proposals for both included equity and inclusion considerations.

Council's ongoing discussion of the residency requirement for volunteer board members was discussed.

f. Report Out Items

None.

EQUITY AND INCLUSION MANAGER'S REPORT

August meeting to be canceled. October meeting will be rescheduled due to Indigenous People's Day.

City is conducting an ADA assessment plan. Anshu asked for help distributing the survey

Discussion was held around BIMC provision requiring on-duty law enforcement personnel to be identified

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Olivia reminded members, in light of pending political season, that REAC members can endorse candidates only in their individual capacity, not as a member of REAC.

Olivia raised that we should discuss at future meetings how to report out/communicate with Council.

Minutes approved: September 8, 2025