

Minutes

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee

June 22, 2023

Vice Chair Burnett conducted and called the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee, June 22, 2023, hybrid meeting to order at 1:02 PM, at City Hall in Council Chambers, 710 NW Wall Street, 97703. Watch the COBAAC [June 22, 2023 YouTube Live Stream](#).

1. Roll Call:

Members Present Virtually (6)

- John Heylin (He, Him), Chair
- Aaron Rivers (He, Him)
- Kelly Crowley (She, Her)
- Liz Diether-Martin (She, Her)
- Stephanie Utzman (She, Her)
- Whitney Bennett (She, Her)

Members Present In-Person (3)

- Carl Burnett (He, Him), Vice Chair
- Amanda Hamer (She, Her)
- Alternate: Liz Woodfin (She, Her)

Members Absence Excused (3):

- Derek Hofbauer (He/Him)
- Kori Sparks (She/Her)
- Nicholas Radon (He/Him)

City Staff Attended:

- Cassandra Kehoe (She/Her), Accessibility and Equity Manager and COBAAC Staff Liaison
- Barbara Campbell (She/Her), City Councilor, and COBAAC Liaison
- Lisa Larsen (She/Her), Administrative Support Specialist, Accessibility and Equity

City Staff Presenters:

- Stephanie Betteridge (She/Her), Chief Innovation Officer, and Assistant City Manager
- Mellissa Kamanya (She/Her), Affordable Housing Coordinator

2. Land Acknowledgement:

Member Amanda Hamer She, Her, volunteered to read aloud.

City of Bend Land Acknowledgement

We would like to acknowledge that the beautiful land, known as Bend, Oregon north of the Columbia River is the original homeland of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs. The Confederated Tribes ceded this land in the Treaty of 1855 while retaining regular and customary hunting, fishing, and gathering rights. The Wana Łama (**Warm Springs**), Wasq'ú (Wasco), and Northern Paiute people inhabited this area in certain seasonal times that clearly established their presence. It is also important to note that the Klamath Trail ran north through this region to the great Celilo Falls trading grounds. This trade route expanded the impact of commerce between Tribal nations. We acknowledge and thank the original stewards of this land. It is our hope that guests continue to honor and care for this land.

3. Approval of May 25, 2023, Draft Minutes:

Motion: Member Hamer motioned to approve the COBAAC May 25, 2023, Draft Minutes as read, with no corrections. Member Utzman seconded the motion. The motion to approve the May 25, 2023, draft minutes to final, and unanimously passed by all voting members who attended, in person (2) and virtually (6).

4. Public Comment:

Diane Oser attended the meeting virtually but made no comment.

5. City Manager Office Update **Timestamp 5:57**

Stephanie Betteridge She, Her, Chief Innovation Officer, and Assistant City Manager

- The City of Bend has hired an Equity and Inclusion Director, Andrés Portela, and will start July 10, 2023.
- Last night (June 21st), City Council adopted both their budget and Council Goals for 2023 to 2025. And Chief Innovation Officer Betteridge mentioned highlights.

A question about the COBAAC's involvement with the development of the Council Goals and about the dollars adopted within the Equity Department, for professional development. These dollars primarily support the Equity Department staff, for professional development and training, to stay up to date with best practices. But we could use some dollars within that budget if COBAAC wanted to do some training or invite someone to speak on a topic.

6. City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee 2022 - 2023 Strategic Plan **Timestamp 11:52**

Accessibility and Equity Manager & COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe COBAAC broke COBAAC members into three subgroups from the information and members interest gathered from the May 25th, discussion about the COBAC 2022-2023 Strategic Plan.

Each subgroup will schedule a meeting to discuss 1 to 2 initiatives to complete by the end of 2023. Accessibility and Equity Manager & COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe, asking specifically, for the initiatives be S.M.A.R.T Goals: **S**pecific; **M**easurable; **A**chievable; **R**ealistic; and **T**imely, and be ready to share with other COBAAC members during the July 27th COBAAC meeting for feedback/input.

A member from each subgroup volunteered to be a team leader/organizer and schedule a meeting before the July 27, 2023 COBAAC meeting and they discussed the initiatives:

- **Improving Transportation and Infrastructure Subgroup:**
 - Team Organizer: Vice Chair Burnett
 - Team Members: Diether-Martin, Crowley, Rivers, and potentially member Woodfin.
- **Creating an Accessible Community Subgroup:**
 - Team Organizer: Chair Heylin
 - Team Members: Hofbauer, Bennett, Radon, and potentially member Woodfin.
- **Creating a Culture of Accessibility Within the City of Bend Organization Subgroup:**
 - Team Organizer: Member Utzman
 - Team Members: Hamer and potentially member Woodfin.

7. COBAAC Business // COBAAC Round Table Timestamp 53:56

City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee Members

COBAAC members shared events, meetings, or firsthand experiences impacted by accessibility.

8. COBAAC Invitation for Public Comment on Accessible Housing Update Timestamp 1:04:44

Mellissa Kamanya She. Her, Affordable Housing Coordinator

Affordable Housing Coordinator Kamanya attended the April 2023 COBAAC meeting to review the Fair Housing Proclamation to work with the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC), to understand housing issues with accessibility.

- Slide 1: Unless You Report Discrimination, It Won't Stop
- Slide 2: History
- Slide 3: Current Work
- Slide 4: COBAAC – help needed

Affordable Housing Coordinator is here with a presentation and invite COBAAC members to attend the **July 12, 2023, Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC), hybrid meeting**, from 3:00 to 5:00 PM. She is asking COBAAC members to share their suggestions, during the public comment section of the July, AHAC meeting, for how to include accessibility in their scoring, and expectations for rental and homeownership.

AHAC is interested in hearing experiences that COBAAC members may have had with accessing, finding, maintaining, barriers with service animals, and having units where you can be successful and safe.

- Slide 5: DRAFT 2023 Fair Housing Evaluation

9. Accessibility and Equity Manager Update Timestamp 1:14:57

Cassandra Kehoe She, Her, Accessibility and Equity Manager and COBAAC Staff Liaison

Accessibility and Equity Manager // COBAAC Staff Liaison Kehoe gave the following updates:

- Seeking 1 to 2 COBAAC members to join the **Transportation Fee Round Table** listening sessions in August, September, and October.
- **Pride 2023:** Hosted by Queer Creators Collective
 - 11:00 AM to 5:00 PM
 - Festival at COCC Mazama Field
- **Section 504 at 50** – Partners Project: Details to follow via email.
 - Aaron Rivers and Stephanie Utzman
 - Carl Burnett and Kelly Crowley
 - Kori Sparks and Liz Woodfin
 - Liz Diether-Martin and John Heylin
 - Derek Hofbauer and Amanda Hamer
 - Nicholas Radon and Whitney Bennett
- Co-hosted **COBAAC and HREC Welcoming Week Kick-Off Event** in September
- 1 to 2 COBAAC member(s) to join **HREC Subcommittee:** Develop a process to connect community members who have experienced acts of discrimination with reporting options and resources. (Members: Hamer and Utzman?)

10. COBAAC Councilmember Liaison Update Timestamp 1:20:17

Barbara Campbell She, her, hers; City Councilor, and COBAAC Liaison

- City Council passed the budget last night.
- City Councilor // COBAAC Council Liaison Campbell shared a story about City of Bend Transportation Engineer Lewis, spending two months in Europe, last summer, learning about infrastructure.

Bend Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) filled a gap to bring one of one of the Engineers from Europe to the City of Bend this summer.

COBAAC Council Liaison Campbell answered a question from vice chair Burnett about what she might like to highlight from Council Goals.

11. The next City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting is Thursday, July 27, 2023, from 12:00 to 1:30 PM. (Please note the time change for this meeting; meeting starts at noon)

12. With no further COBAAC business, vice Chair Burnett adjourned the City of Bend Accessibility Advisory Committee (COBAAC), June 22, 2023 meeting at 2:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Lisa Larsen
Administrative Support Specialist, Accessibility and Equity



Accommodation Information for People with Disabilities

To obtain this information in an alternate format such as Braille, large print, electronic formats, etc., Please contact the Accessibility and Equity Department at accessibility@bendoregon.gov 541-693-2198. Relay Users Dial 7-1-1.