



Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

Oregon Commission on Black Affairs
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MINUTES

Oregon Commission on Black Affairs

June 19, 2009
9:00 – 11:00 AM
Oregon State Capitol, Room 350

ATTENDEES

Chair: Everette Rice
Vice Chair: Clifford Walker
Commissioners: Jennifer Doncan, Phyllis Rand, Carlos Jermaine Richard
Guest(s): Peggy C. Ross
Staff: Helen Hoang, Joy Howard

I. Call to Order

- a. Chair Rice called the meeting to order at 9:07 AM.

II. Review of Agenda, changes if necessary

- a. Administrator Hoang asked that the review and approval of the February 6, 2009 OCBA minutes be added to the agenda.
 - i. Approval of the minutes with no revisions were motioned by Commissioner Walker and approved unanimously.

III. Introduction of new Commission Members:

Commissioner Jennifer Doncan joins OCBA with over 20 years of experience in education. She has a strong focus on education and believes that through organizing, the OCBA can bring unity to Black communities throughout Oregon.

Commissioners welcomed Commissioner Doncan and thanked her for her invaluable service in the classroom and are excited to have her added perspective and understanding of the education system part of the OCBA.

IV. Chair's Report to Commission:

Proposals

- a. Interactive listserv –
Chair Rice proposed getting an interactive listserv for OCBA and citizens to have open dialogue about different topics of interest.
 - i. **ACTION:** Chair Rice will check with the Oregon State Library to see if this would be possible and report back to commission on findings.

- b. OCBA letterhead –
Commissioner Walker would like permission to use OCBA letterhead to legislators seeking support of the initiative to remove symbols of racial hate and oppression in landscape.
 - i. Administrator Hoang requested that anything done on behalf of OCBA come through OACO to get support of commissioners (quorum) first before moving forward with proposal.
 - ii. It was agreed upon that before the commission takes action on something, an email will be sent to commissioners informing them that the quorum has agreed on that decision and is moving forward. This will allow commissioners to support the decision with a common voice.
- c. OCBA letter to US Senate –
Commissioner Walker suggested the commission send some type of correspondence that acknowledges the apology from US Senate for slavery.
 - i. Motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to support idea.
 - ii. **ACTION:** Chair Rice will work with Administrator Hoang to draft letter and send to commissioners for approval. Will send copy of final letter to media outlets. Commissioner Walker agreed to send Administrator Hoang bullet points to include in that letter.
- d. Business Directory –
Commissioner Walker recommended that OCBA sponsor and create an annual directory of black owned businesses and resources (e.g., churches, restaurants, hair salons, etc.) and use as a way for fundraising.
 - i. **ACTION:** Chair Rice, Commissioner Walker, and Commissioner Doncan have been designated as committee for this project. Will give an update at the next OCBA meeting.
- e. OCBA priorities –
Commissioner Richard would like to locate the list of priorities and issues that were created at the January 2008 OCBA meeting to review and track unfinished projects before adding more to the table.
 - i. Group Discussion: Commissioners added that resolutions should be made at the completion of projects and a public forum should be held to get community feedback.
 - ii. **ACTION:** Joy and Helen will work to locate list and send to commissioners to review.
- f. State of Black Oregon Forum –
Meeting proposed by Commissioner Richard. This forum is designed to be a call to action to network, bring unity, and address issues with citizens in the black community.
 - i. **ACTION:** Chair Rice and Commissioner Richard have been assigned to the planning committee for the forum. Will give an update at the next OCBA meeting.

V. Final Thoughts:

- a. Next meeting suggestions
 - i. The next OCBA meeting will be July 17 from 9-11am in Portland. Chair Rice will reserve the venue. OACO will send notice once meeting site is located.
- b. Agenda suggestions
 - i. Website update –
 - 1. Please send your short bio and a picture to Joy so she can update the OCBA website prior to the next OCBA meeting.
 - ii. Discussion and election of Chair and Vice-Chair for the new year

- iii. Vote on Vice Chair's initiative to send correspondence to legislatures seeking their support in the removal of symbols of racial hate and oppression in landscape and send to media outlets.

VI. Adjournment at 10:58am