



*Highlands Council fosters a vibrant and caring community
committed to service, diversity, stewardship, and well-being.*

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: February 5, 2024

Meeting Time: 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Meeting Location: Blakely Hall

Board Members in Attendance:

Kashif Zahoor, President*

Lisa Soboslai, Vice President

Anna Preyapongpisan, Secretary*

Phil Nored, Treasurer

Ben Armlin

Albert Wang

Zach Hall

Ami Desai Mehta, Secretary Emeritus

HC Staff Members in Attendance:

Lindsey Pinkston, Executive Director

Guests in Attendance: None

Not in Attendance:

Alisa Taggart

David Ngai, Treasurer Emeritus

*Attended virtually

Meeting Minutes Taken By: Anna Preyapongpisan

Call to Order:

Who: Lisa Soboslai

Time: 5:03 PM

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Meeting Minutes 12/5/2023
Motion to approve – Ben Armlin; 2nd – Zach Hall. All approved. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

- **Community Safety Committee** – Zach shared that the first committee meeting will be held tomorrow, 2/6/2024.

- **Equity Committee** – Anna shared that the first equity meeting had a great turnout with Anna, Lindsey, and four community members in attendance, with a 5th joining the next meeting. The current focus of the committee will be on the upcoming community survey.
- **Communications Committee** – Albert shared that the first meeting focused on the upcoming issue of Connections in April which will focus on Autism awareness. Committee is looking for more members and volunteers to write for Connections.
- **Finance Committee** – Phil shared that the committee has reviewed the November and December 2023 financials, and they look accurate. Michele and Phil are working on reviewing CDs that will be expiring and decide whether to roll over while interest rates are still high.
- **Programming Committee** – Ben shared that the calendar of events for the year was reviewed at the first meeting. Committee is still recruiting members.
- **Board Development Committee** – Lisa and Lindsey shared that there are prospective board members and the group discussed updating board application information on the website to encourage members to join a committee before applying to join board.
- **ED Review/Compensation Committee** – Lisa shared that Lindsey is working on self-reflection before the review. Same process will be followed for staff reviews.

Open Business

- **Community van** – YWCA has accepted the van. Michele and Anna are working on the transfer.
- **Branding MOU/Rebranding** – No updates, still working on trademarks.

Management Report

- **Blakely Hall Emergency Update** – Lindsey shared that costs from flooding will be minimal out of pocket, most covered by insurance. Still looking for available restoration crew for office work completion and working on getting a new printer. Also changing fire suppression company.
- **Grant Updates** – Lindsey shared that Arts Commission has recommended \$5k for Global Grub and Groove and \$4k for Nowruz event, going for approval from City Council on 2/5/24. Also submitted request for funding from Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for LEGO Expo and Global Grub and Groove.
- **Shelter Holdings** – Lindsey provided update on Shelter Holdings development, with road work slated to begin in 2025.
- **Resilience Hubs** – Lindsey shared that she is representing Issaquah Highlands on the City's Resilience Hub committee.
- **Join or Die** – Movie screening on February 25 at Blakely Hall.
- **Movie in the Park** – starting this summer.

Stakeholder Updates:

- **Multifamily** – No updates
- **Grand Ridge Plaza** – Lindsey shared that Grand Ridge is looking at hosting car shows that were formerly hosted at XXX Root Beer. Regency is partnering with a nationwide company that holds pop-up events in shopping centers.
- **Residential** – No updates
- **City** – Zach shared that the City is working on new biennial budget for 2025-26, mayor is putting together a task force to update strategic plan, updating comprehensive plan. Issaquah police officers will be starting to use body cameras in 2024. City will be continuing light rail planning this year along with other infrastructure projects. Zach is participating on the Bond Advisory Committee for Issaquah School District.

Board meeting adjourned at: 6:27 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Date: February 6, 2024
Anna Preyapongpisan
Secretary – Highlands Council Board of Trustees