

Annual Report of the King Legacy Advisory Board



August 2016

Members:

Jasper Smith, Chair
Megha Shyam, Vice Chair
Kerstin Colón
Alyssa Faye Campbell
Frederick Edwards
Marcianne Koetje
Chris Lenn
Gabriel Merrell
Amber Moody
Joseph Orosco

Staff: Various

Council Liaison: Barbara Bull

Purpose/Mission summary:

Section 1.16.260 - King Legacy Advisory Board.

- 1) A King Legacy Advisory Board, is hereby created.
- 2) The Advisory Board shall be composed of ten members, with one member nominated by the Benton County Commissioners, one by 509J, and one by either Oregon State University or Linn-Benton Community College. All other members shall be appointed by the Mayor in accordance with Section 1.16.030 herein.
- 3) The Advisory Board exists to celebrate and promote the principles and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the goal of helping Corvallis to become a more inclusive and just community. This work includes:
 - a) Promote inclusion of diverse people and communities within Corvallis.
 - b) Pursue nonviolent solutions to economic and social injustices in Corvallis.
 - c) Be a strong advocate to build a strong and diverse community of Corvallis residents.

(Ord. 2014-20 § 1, 12/01/2014; Ord. 2014-16 § 9, 11/17/2014; Ord. 2008-08 § 1, 04/21/2008; Ord. 2001-07 § 1, 6/18/2001; Ord. 90-50, 1990; Ord. 90-48, 1990; Ord. 86-27 § 2, 1986)

Prior Year Report:

Activities and work completed:

- Our annual King Holiday celebration drew over 200 people.
- We awarded two scholarship winners.
- Initiated a visit by Tim Wise and worked with community partners to host two live events and two film events. Over 1000 people attended these events.
- Offered a community event for the 25th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act including Autism: The Musical with Wyatt and Diane Isaacs.
- Participated in the Racial Justice Summit and the on-going Racial Justice Coalition.

- Co-sponsored the first and second community Juneteenth celebration commemorating the end of slavery. About 150 attended the first year and about 200 attended the second year despite rainy weather.
- Co-sponsored the Sprout Film Festival to highlight work done by people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- Worked with the Native American Longhouse to help draft and present a proclamation to declare Indigenous People's Day in Corvallis instead of Columbus Day for the first time in our community.
- Presented a letter urging the city and the county to pursue alternatives to incarceration rather than pursue funding for a bigger jail.
- Met with local officials such as Mayor Biff Traber, District Attorney John Haroldson, and City Councilor Penny York on local issues and the city's 2040 visioning process.
- Expanded membership from eight to ten members by including a student representative and a 509j school district representative.
- Hosted a June follow-up event at the library that was a community conversation about alternatives to incarceration in our community. They kicked off study and action groups sponsored by Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ). About 35-40 people have signed up for the study and action groups.

Activities and work in progress:

- We are actively planning for next year's holiday celebration and scholarship contest. We have a speaker and a venue scheduled for the holiday on January 16, 2017.

Next Year Proposed Work Plan:

Regular activities and work (ongoing or annual):

- Planning and hosting the city's annual King Holiday celebration.
- Offering scholarship contest for high school students.
- Advising the city.
- Coordinate and collaborate with the newly forming Community Involvement and Diversity Advisory Board.
- Collaborate and coordinate with local community groups and activities.

Special activities and work for the year:

- Collaboration with the Racial Justice Coalition.
- Community forums and conversations.
- Renaming study and action.

Resources:

Prior Year: \$10,000 allocated.

Needed for the next year: \$10,000

Feedback about the Annual Report Process:

There seemed to be enough time given to complete the report. It is a helpful reminder and recap of accomplishments and goals.