University of Pittsburgh

Community Relations Committee

University Senate

Community Relations Committee Meeting

Tuesday December 7, 2021

1pm – 2:00pm

Zoom Video Conference

University of Pittsburgh

Meeting URL:	https://pitt.zoom.us/j/96753695852?from=addon
Meeting ID:	967 5369 5852

Minutes

Attendees: LaMonica Wiggins, Shenay Jeffrey, Robin Kear, Kris Kanthak, Jamie Ducar, John Maier, Jamie Hammond; James Williams, David Givens; Stephanie Mutchler

I. Call to Order 1:00pm
II. Welcome
III. Meeting minutes approval
- **LaMonica Wiggins**: The minutes for our last meeting have been distributed to you via the TEAMS files. We need to approve the minutes. Are there any corrections? Please use the zoom reactions to thumbs up or check mark to approve the minutes as distributed. Unanimous approval of October meeting minutes.
IV. Updates from Community Relations Liaisons and Engagement Officers at Pitt
- **Jamie Ducar:** 1. Number of events hosted recently including Sip and Stroll to support local business owners. Re-zoning hearing for Oakland crossings concept upcoming. The university wants to keep community needs in mind with a new dashboard. The Institutional masterplan public dashboard (IMP) will be live next year. The dashboard allows for

community members to review over 70 Pitt strategies and commitments for neighborhood enhancement – to see how we are investing in neighborhood quality through partnerships, programs like Pitt Serves and monetary commitments. The dashboard will be housed on community.pitt.edu. 2. The Concern Connection is a place where community can submit questions about development directly to the university. 3. Christmas day at Pitt is coming back in partnership with Salvation Army. Last held in 2019, served 2800 meals. Giving gifts to all children that attend. Will partner with the CECs and Pitt Athletics to collect gifts for the event.

- **Shenay Jeffrey:** Pitt Serves MLK Day update. Registration is open for staff, faculty and students to volunteer. Still looking for service projects. All projects need to be indoors.

V. Updates from Community Pro-tem Members and Partners - OPDC, OBID, Oakwatch, CHS, Peoples Oakland and OTMA

- **LaMonica:** 1. People's Oakland - Peoples Oakland continues to stay busy and well – a steady number of referrals are being processed by our intake coordinator, adding to our nearly 200 active members. On average, about 20 members per day attend PO to meet with their counselor, attend a group/activity, or socialize while distanced and masked. Thankfully, we have not had any COVID-19 positive cases, so we will continue with our current operating hours, Mon.-Thur. 9:30 am-5 pm and Fri. 9:30 am-4 pm. Our thanks in advance for the Holiday Dinner provided by Pitt and the Salvation Army. So many of our members are able to enjoy a delicious holiday meal on that day that otherwise would not, and for that, it absolutely makes a huge, positive difference we all appreciate so much. 2. OTMA – Port Authority is kicking off planning for the pedestrian crossing between Homestead Grays bridge and the McKeesport Transportation Center. The service improvements will include changes to the 61C bus route. Asking for feedback through a virtual public meeting happening today and again at 6:30 this evening. Mon-Oakland connector project is under review under the new mayor elect Ed Gainey. This project will be on hold pending internal review from administration and independent review from the controller's office. The Oakland Plan is seeking input on transit access via a survey (put link in chat).

VI. Senate Council Update

- **Robin Kear:** Last week we passed two policies and procedures – HIPAA policy and protection of child from abuse. Faculty Affairs also presented a document related to teaching and messaging for the spring.

VII. New/Other Business

- Updates on Senate Plenary
  i. **Kris Kanthak**: March 1st will be the date of the Senate Plenary. Will be part of the Community Engaged Scholarship Forum. How will we

highlight CES work around campus for newbees. Still working through what the event will look like with the Research Committee. We have funds to pay honorarium. Looking for ideas that will be helpful.

ii. **Jamie**: For the Community Engaged Scholarship Forum, we are soliciting nominations and proposals. We are looking for workshops, lightning talks and more. Nominations are open for several awards related to community engagement, outstanding partnerships. The two headline topics that we are focusing on for this forum are: broader impacts and equitable practice. Our deep dives this year are Health equity, environmental justice and coalition building. These deeps dives align with the university's strengths. We are still bringing in partners and sponsors etc. The forum is 12 hours, and the Plenary would be impeded in this event.

iii. **Kris**: The Plenary would be in a 3-hour block. We will have the attention of the Provost and Chancellor at that time. The structure of the event will be determined. We could have a panel, or keynote, hands-on activities etc. Looking to make this the most flexible and cost effective for everyone.

iv. **LaMonica**: We've created a document to start collecting names for potential speakers either for keynote or panel members. This folder Senate Plenary Planning is available on our TEAMS channel for this group. Let's start populating this: https://pitt.sharepoint.com/:x:/r/sites/FacultySenateCRC/Shared%20Documents/General/Senate%20Plenary%20Documents/SenatePlenarySpeakersList.xlsx?d=w8a9fefaf102244b4ac0e13e5ed8ee86b&csf=1&web=1&e=WTxa05 Also, Shenay, Kris and I will be meeting with the Senate Research Committee to discuss planning later this week. We should also think about hold a joint meeting with the Research Committee to determine day of planning. Perhaps our January meeting should be earmarked for this.

v. **Jamie**: It would be great to focus for the Plenary on who is doing this type of work nationally on a high level. It might be good to look to another engaged university for a practical conversation about their frameworks and practice. Looking at national coalitions supporting engaged research as well.

- Expanding the Community Representation on Committee

  Shenay: We have been discussing this for quite some time in the past year. We have been talking about this in regard to the changes to community engagement at the university. We want this community space to be representative of our efforts. What are your thoughts?

LaMonica: Just so everyone is aware who are our pro-tem members currently: OBID, OPDC Oakwatch, CHS, OTMA and People's Oakland.

Jamie: Consider the ways that these groups are already working with the university. The CEC directors already have Community Advisory Councils made up of many of these potential organizations. Think about what they are already being asked to contribute.

John: With so many other meetings happening, I wonder if there is a way for our group to liaise instead of asking them to join this group.

- ▢ Revisit of Committee Goals/Action Items Discussion (Tabled)
- ▢ Next Semester Meeting Schedule
    - i. LaMonica: I will be sending a doodle survey to determine when we want to meet in the new year.

VIII.   Adjourn: 2:00pm

Next CRC Meeting: January ?, 2021