



University of Pittsburgh

Community Relations Committee
University Senate

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Community Relations Committee Meeting
October 16, 2019
12:00 Noon-1:30 PM
527 William Pitt Union
University of Pittsburgh

Minutes

Attendees: Victor Bench, Dominic DiSanto, Jennifer White, Jacob Kariuki, Jarret Crowell, Lina Dostilio, Jamie Ducar, Paul Supowitz, Amanda Ritchie, Donovan Harrell, Mary Beth McGrew

Regrets: Amani Attia, Judy Callan Tim Coleman, Anne Hays, Marissa Arlet, Kenneth Batista, , Andrea Kriska, Mavis Rainey, Andrea Tempalski, Jennifer Jones, Georgia Petropoulos, Wanda Wilson, James, Williams, Kenneth Thompson

Presiding: Shenay Jeffery and Jennifer Cousins, co-chairs
Minutes by: Jennifer Cousins

Call to order: 12:05

1. Opening: Ice breaker: Unspoken Rules of Pittsburgh. Brief discussion about special aspects or interesting observations about our communities.
2. Addressing minutes from last minutes: Minutes from September 18, 2019 were approved.
3. Guest Speakers - **Derek Dauphin and Sophie Robison** from the Department of City Planning to discuss the **Oakland Plan**. Derek's focus is on Downtown, Uptown and Oakland.

Derek gave a very informative presentation about the way that the City of Pittsburgh approaches city planning and specifically the process regarding the Oakland Plan. Derek also discussed the six departments that are involved in the City of Pittsburgh planning, which include Strategic and Neighborhood planning, Zoning and Development, Sustainability and Resilience, Public Art and Civic Design, Geographic Information and Community Affairs.

The Oakland plan is a 10-year plan. The first step is to develop a Public Engagement Plan via a steering committee that includes multiple community members. That will be happening this fall. Stage 2 will begin in Winter/Spring 2020 and will address and opportunities and set some action goals. The Oakland Plan will incorporate information from Oakland 2025, Innovation Oakland Master Plan and Institutional Master Plan and more. A guide for the Oakland Plan can be found at https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/6863_Oakland_Plan_One_Pager_-_2019-08-26.pdf

A goal of the Oakland Plan is to ensure contributions from all members of the community, through the steering committee and action teams. Action team meetings begin in April 2020.

Sophie Robison also mentioned that there are plenty of opportunities for University student engagement: Many students live in Oakland and may want to be part of this process through course projects or research projects with faculty members.

The CRC thanks Derek and Sophie for presenting at our meeting and sharing the exciting information about the Oakland Plan. Here is their contact information.

Derek Dauphin: Project Manager derek.dauphin@pittsburghpa.gov

Sophie Robison: Project Coordinator sophia.robison@pittsburghpa.gov

Updates from Community Relations Liaisons –

4. Community and Government Relations (CGR): Update by *Lina Dostilio*: Celebrating the one year anniversary of Homewood Community Engagement Center, celebration was on October 16th from 5:30 – 7:30 at food 622 N. In addition, kicking off community of practice in staff that support community engagement, *Jamie Ducar* will be working on this - @pitt newsletters has a survey. On November 13th and 14th there will be a tenants off campus meeting for students to learn about positive ways to live off campus. The draft for Institutional Master Plan is live and on the web, <https://www.campusplan.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/PittIMP-FinalDraft-191015.pdf>, feedback will end on November 15th and it will be submitted at the end of November. Day of Caring was held on Friday October 18.
5. Pitt Serves: Update from *Shenay Jeffery*: Pitt make a difference day (pmad) on Saturday October 19th— pmad is the largest day of service for students. It is a university wide initiative to do service related activities and service projects. Over 3000 students have signed up. Pitt Serves offers a service opportunity grant for up to \$10,000 for projects, grants are reviewed by students and staff.
6. Community Team Members: Oakland Planning and Development Corporation (OPDC): OPDC is excited about Day of Caring, they will be cleaning up a hillside and planting tulip bulbs around Oakland. In addition, On 2520 Wadsworth St. affordable rentals are available. They are in the predevelopment design for a project on Frazier St. for housing units available for community land trust homes. On October 16th, a financial wellness course was provided for Oakland residents. This is a 5 week program that covers a variety of financial topics such as the value of money, spending and savings plans and how to become a homeowner. Another project underway, the Neighborhood Needs Assessment project, presented by *Jarret Crowell*. A survey was designed to assess the needs of people in Oakland. The survey includes assessments of housing, job market, green spaces, child care, access to food and many others. Students will be helping to administer the surveys.

Adjourn: 1:08

Next CRC Meeting: November 20, 2019 in WPU 527

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