

Committee for Community Involvement

MARCH 19, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Time: 6 - 8 p.m.

Held via Zoom

CCI Attendees: Karen Bjorklund (Chair), Rick Cook, Bill Merchant, Brent Parries (Vice-Chair), Gordon Slatford, Barbara Smolak, Laurie Swanson, Sally Worthge

Attending PGA Liaison to CCI: Ed Nieto, Tonia Holowetzki

Public Attendees: None

1. Welcome, Introductions

Welcome and introductions included an introduction by Maria Magallon, PGA Community Relations Specialist and CPO liaison who will be working with Ed Nieto to support CPOs.

2. MEETING MINUTES

Bill Merchant motioned to approve the minutes from the February meeting as presented. Gordon Slatford seconded the motion. The committee members then voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

4. Update on recruitment for new opening on the CCI

Ms. Holowetzki stated that a recruitment for a new CCI member would be posted and made public within the week once PGA's new automated management system comes online.

5. CCI Work Item Tracker: Follow-up to January CPO listening session, as part of developing CCI annual report, recommendations and work plan.

- **Update on survey to CPOs & public to get more information about topics raised at CPO Listening session.**

Ed Nieto reported that draft survey was nearly complete and ready for review. Sally Worthge recommended that the draft survey be sent to her husband Scott who has expertise and considerable experience with surveys so that he can provide feedback and input before the survey is finalized. Mr. Nieto and all members agreed with this approach.

Discussion:

- Regarding a second tier of broader outreach via social media discussed, explore the possibility of reaching out to underrepresented populations by translating a survey into Spanish and other appropriate languages. Mr. Nieto agreed to discuss the issue with Ms. Magallon.
- Cover letter email should be sent with survey to CPOs and also contain a request (with CCI email address) that CPOs list other issues that do not appear on the survey.
- Proper amount of time is needed for effective collection of relevant data. Create processes for that as well as a plan to circle back to non-responding CPOs if needed.

- **Update on PGA discussion with Department of Transportation & Development (DTD) to explore ideas for addressing code enforcement issues.**

Ms. Holowetzki informed members that she had not had an opportunity to have a discussion with DTD Director Dan Johnson, but she did speak with code enforcement personnel. She stated that it is preferable to organize an event with code enforcement personnel to address the issues rather than have personnel travel to meet with individual CPOs.

Discussion:

- For proposed Code Enforcement event meeting with leaders, Zoom format rather than in-person might be preferable as it is more easily moderated and controlled, can be recorded and also provides the possibility for breakout sessions. Suggestion that Mr. Nieto and Ms. Magallon have conversations with CPOs about what kind of format is preferred. Chair suggested that Ms. Holowetzki explore seeking a hold on commissioners' schedules for a possible meeting in June.

6. CCI Work Item Tracker: CCI role with Community Leaders meetings

Discussion:

- CCI should be advisers on the meeting content and details, or partners in the decision-making process. If partners, what responsibilities should CCI and staff have to each other in the meeting planning and the meetings themselves?
- If not partners in deciding expected outcomes, format, etc., CCI and CPOs are at risk of being reduced to mere bystanders, which is what happened at last June's meeting, which, by almost all accounts, was not as productive as it should have been as it lacked two-way dialogue opportunities. CPOs did not feel heard. Seeking productive partnership model moving forward.

7. CCI Work Item Tracker: CCI role with Community Leaders meetings: Update on CPO Marketing Materials project

- Ms. Holowetzki noted that creative staff worked on images and revised language based on CCI feedback that not all content was applicable to all respective CPOs. Some of the marketing materials in question should be ready before next CCI meeting.
- Suggestions to add CPO-related content on the #ClackCoNews loop shown during policy sessions.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- **CCI member requested discussion of invitations to Commissioners.**

Chair Bjorn New Business at future CCI meetings prior CCI meeting where it was noted how there could be more value to the BCC in attending a CCI meeting if CCI is working on something the BCC requested in addition to the annual report and recommendations. As it happens, the BCC has recently made such a request, regarding the policy and procedures on renaming a boat launch in a county park, which the CCI will be discussing at its next meeting.

The Chair also shared three questions for CCI members to think about for the discussion to come regarding general policies that impact the public:

- a. What, if any, public involvement should there be as the committee develops its recommendations?
- b. Is it sufficient that an opportunity for public comment be published in the same manner as BCC meetings?
- c. How, and to what extent, should county or BCC policies that affect the public and call for public input be made available to the public?

Comments:

- Chair Bjorklund mentioned that as the CCI has been interested in employing the IAP2 Spectrum of Public Participation, the CCI's work on the renaming policy issue might provide that opportunity. In particular, the spectrum's upper four tenets - Consult, Involve, Collaborate and Empower.
- She also noted that through its new bylaws, CCI is trying to create solid basis for what CCI does and what it can offer when it comes to public involvement guidance and support. The Chair mentioned the creation of "consultant services" for CCI previously discussed, which could be provided when CCI is called upon for assistance.
- Commissioners need a reason or purpose to come to CCI meetings.
- Need further discussion on what services CCI can provide to other departments in addition to BCC.
- CCI should not be considered a "substitute" for the public or a "focus group" when it comes to outreach efforts.
- ABCs could view CCI as a resource for their respective outreach efforts. More conversation on this topic is needed, along with what CCI's role should be. *[Moved here for clarity, to group with similar subjects]*
- It should be acknowledged that many advisory groups are already doing community engagement and reaching out to underrepresented and hard-to-reach audiences.
- CPOs are lacking in diversity, which makes it important for CPOs to have access to more people in their communities to let them know they have a role to play in land use planning and other issues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, 2024, 6 - 8 p.m. via Zoom.