



**Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, July 27, 2016  
COAB Office  
525 NE Oregon St., Suite 250  
1PM-3PM**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Executive Members in attendance:**

Philip Wolfe  
(no quorum)

**COAB Members in attendance:**

Jimi Johnson  
Rochelle Silver

Meeting commenced at 1:00 PM.

**1. Introductions/house keeping**

**2. Discuss COCL Town Hall meeting**

Philip expressed shock that no one from the Compliance Officer/Community Liaison (COCL) was present.

Rochelle felt Community Oversight and Advisory Board (COAB) business should be added to the agenda.

Philip had emailed Dennis asking him to attend.

Philip and Rochelle expressed concerns that COCL sent their agenda out late but didn't allow the Data Systems, Use of Force & Compliance Subcommittee (DSUFCS) to meet recently because their agenda was submitted late.

Rochelle felt the COCL did not like specific board members, including Tom and herself. She felt the COCL has been strict with rules with people they don't like. She also felt the board members targeted were the ones doing the most work. She wanted it noted in the minutes that certain board members have been treated in a totally unfair and mean-spirited way by COCL.

Kalei said every person who has served on DSUFCS has had their reputations trashed and/or destroyed. Myrlaviani was being personally attacked as were others by COCL. People have been hurt and harmed, then people have stepped up with compassion, and then those people have been attacked. The contribution of citizens to this democratic process is indispensable, but as a result of the Department of Justice (DOJ) Settlement Agreement (SA), something worse has taken place that leaves the community worse off than when it started.

Jimi agreed with Kalei. COCL has created a hostile work environment and they should be held accountable for it. They wouldn't let COAB have a special meeting and made it difficult for the COAB to carry on business. COAB was not supported by them, the City of Portland or the Portland Police Bureau (PPB). He thought public advocates were right to shut down COAB meetings.

Deborah said that when people take on a charge, they need to have the same purpose. COCL needs to decide if they are in or out. People in the community are wondering why the purpose is being defeated. If COCL chooses not to get out, then there should be a review of what needs to happen in order to remove them and get people with the desire to make things work. Chicago has a different culture than Portland. Portland needs a group who will be of service — not a disservice — and who will understand local culture.

Philip mentioned he was on the interview panel for selecting the COCL, and he did not select Dennis. He thought that since COCL was not present, COAB should have been considered or consulted on the Town Hall Agenda. He suggested COAB show up at 7pm and request a meeting. It's important that COAB's voices and concerns are heard. There is an agenda that wasn't finished from the last COAB meeting.

Rochelle agreed; COAB should finish the unfinished items from 7/14 and the issues that didn't get finished should be discussed.

Jimi felt there should be a mediator between the COCL and the COAB.

Philip strongly encouraged everyone to go to the Town Hall and speak out. The community needs to know there are problems with the COCL. He wanted to stay after 7pm to discuss these topics further.

Jimi said once COAB started providing their own opinions on things, they got locked out by COCL.

Rochelle suggested letting other COAB members know about staying later. Philip will email

people.

Kalei asked who the contract administrator for COCL was. The person from the City who helped write the SA isn't there anymore. There was so much quicksand placed in this from the beginning. Kalei said they expected the City would blame the COAB and they did. She said there's one source of data (PPB) but two data crunchers (COCL and DOJ). DOJ seems to be doing most of the work and COCL is skating through. She was having a hard time understanding what was wrong with the City Council and the City Attorney's Office. Those are two places where COAB needs to focus its attention.

Ann asked if the COCL still had a responsibility to do their job while someone makes a decision about the separation of COCL and COAB. She heard Oregon US Attorney Billy Williams in the news indicating nothing would happen until DOJ sends their 2-year status report in September. She felt let down by the DOJ and didn't understand what the process was when things break down. It seems to be no use to go to the DOJ or the City. Where do citizens go?

Kalei said back in 2010, the stakeholders worked with a facilitator and came to consensus on things that needed to be done to reform PPB. COCL has chosen to use pros versus cons to create a "them versus us" dynamic. DSUFCS once used consensus but Kathleen had them switch to using pros and cons. This undermined the COAB. Everywhere Kalei looked at the performance of the COCL, she saw fault on their part 100% — but blame is placed on COAB 100%. At the last status conference, Judge Simon said if anyone has problems, bring them to him and he'll help solve their conflicts. Now attorneys will plan their presentations so that they look good.

### **3. Follow up re: July 14<sup>th</sup> COAB meeting**

Philip thought July 14<sup>th</sup> was the most honest meeting yet. Dennis was willing to change his mind regarding COAB and the public in separate rooms. The facilitator did okay. He asked if COCL was willing to allocate funds for a facilitator to facilitate, why not allow a COAB member to facilitate.

Amy said her understanding was this not something that could be changed until the SA is changed.

Rochelle liked the setup of the meeting, specifically that the community was closer to the COAB members. She liked the idea of people giving public testimony sitting at the table. No one yelled about filming. The facilitator was a nice woman who did the COAB retreat. She got a lot of instruction from Amy Watson on what to do. There were a few disrupters absent and that might have helped. Rochelle thought being served "divorce papers" from the COCL a few days ahead of time didn't help the mood. It's hard to know what another meeting would be like. She agreed with the idea of a COAB member chairing COAB, though she understand it couldn't happen right now per the SA.

Amy: Until SA is changed, the person facilitating the meeting needs to be connected to COCL. Maria Elena Campisteguy, the facilitator of the July 14<sup>th</sup> COAB meeting, is connected to the COCL through the contract the City has with her to do the work. COCL has been directed to continue to operate as they always have until DOJ responds to the COCL petition. Also, if a COAB member chaired a meeting, they wouldn't be able to vote and then we wouldn't have quorum.

*Discussion around using the second half of Town Hall for COAB meeting to finish unfinished 7/14 COAB meeting.*

Amy stressed that COAB wouldn't have a quorum but COAB members said they didn't need quorum to hold a meeting.

Rochelle noted COAB could put out a notice before 5:30 PM to let people know COAB would be meeting to finish discussing acquiring legal counsel and other issues. Rochelle said she'd be willing to give a proxy vote remotely if allowed, and also that the COAB could have a discussion with the community.

Ann brought up the issue of COAB needing to find a way to have quorum.

Amy said COCL has asked the City to provide information on when the commissions and City Council will replace COAB members. (Appointing new community representatives is a separate process.)

Ann asked what the community needs to do to get the Council to take action on filling posts.

Carol said the main question concerns whether or not COAB can meet tomorrow from 7:00-8:30 PM. According to public meeting law, they can, so long as a notice is posted today by 5:00 PM.

It was agreed that COAB could meet but the COCL would have to chair it. All of the logistical pieces would have to be in place.

Kalei said the COCL doesn't seem to understand they are in breach of the SA when doesn't work within the rules set forth.

#### **4. Petition from COCL**

Rochelle said there was confusion about the word 'independent.' She said COAB has never been independent because anything it has tried to do has been squashed. COCL describes in its petition that the bad behavior is coming from COAB, but it's coming from the COCL. They have expressed their distaste of COAB from the beginning. COAB has been considered nothing but a pain to them. She said COCL also says it has no authority about misconduct but when someone

made a complaint about the Community Liaison, they took care of it. But when complaints were filed against COAB, it was different.

Kalei wondered if COCL understands it's incurring liabilities for the City Council because of their treatment of COAB. Kalei felt the COCL represents the Mayor and City Council. The COCL has to abide by the laws more precisely than the COAB. She didn't know if COCL intended to have this hostile environment but it was the result of intentional behavior. At some point COCL needs to take responsibility for COAB not working well. Kalei said COCL has destroyed the COAB and itself.

Jimi said COCL works for Portland and they want to control the oversight of the SA, which basically makes COAB puppets. He felt the COAB's creative ideas have been discouraged now that the COAB has started asking questions. The City wants things to stay the same as they have been for the last 50 years. They want to parade COAB around like they're clowns, and COCL comes in as the experts.

Philip was concerned with the timing of the COCL petition. COCL had just learned that COAB wanted to leave. COCL didn't mention their plans to COAB, but as soon as they learned COAB's plans they sent their petition.

Rochelle thought the City and the DOJ wanted to divorce COAB as well. She said at COAB's July 14 meeting there were no DOJ, City, or PPB representatives there other than one police advisor (Tashia Hager), but Mary Claire did not attend.

Kalei said that is called desertion. She said a city council somewhere else had been held in contempt for not complying or working on their Settlement Agreement. COAB needs to start preparing its report for the upcoming Status Conference with reasons why the divorce is recommended. COAB needs to proceed with obedience to the SA regardless of what the COCL does. The COAB needs to represent the community and tell it like it is. It needs to document everything that's been unfair and tell it to the judge in October.

Rochelle said she and several COAB members met with the Albina Ministerial Alliance (AMA) steering committee to talk about a court monitor. Dr. Hayne's position was they would need to study it before they could support such a position. She said Kathleen also sent an email that basically said, be careful what you're asking for because there is really no difference between a COCL and a court monitor and that the voice of the community might be left out with a monitor.

Kalei said a monitor would be working for Judge Simon so would therefore probably be better behaved. COCL is working with the Mayor at this point. She said the Mayor has given permission to COCL to disrespect citizens because Mayor disrespects citizens. The DOJ has a crisis it needs to resolve. If the community and COAB can't solve the City's problems around a table or court room, they will be adjudicated in the street.

Philip said COAB's reputation is being compromised because of everything happening with the

City and COCL. Given its responsibilities, the COAB can't afford that.

Jimi thought COAB should go before Judge Simon as soon as possible, perhaps in August. Rosenbaum & Watson need to go. The PPB and City have been sweeping things under the rug for the last six months.

Philip said he wanted the room to know he will be talking to the DOJ about meeting, and to COCL about the meeting tomorrow. He also suggested everyone watch Zootopia. It talks about so many issues COAB has covered: police brutality, 48-hour rule, racism, sexism, mayors and their roles, etc. He said it was a great movie; it was both cute and political.

## **5. Public comments throughout**

Kalei said that on August 1<sup>st</sup> the City Council will hold a meeting to decide whether or not to terminate the Citizen Review Committee (CRC). The Community and Police Relations Committee (CPRC) is already in hiatus. All citizens need to show up because all citizens are being trashed by this mayor: CRC, CPRC, and COAB.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.