

Metro Calls For Review Of Recommendation Excluding Blacks

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forts in providing opportunities in convention and tourism and being a positive example for young entrepreneurs at the 1992 Annual POVA Appreciation Awards, yet this past month, Brook's vote on the ER Commission stated that Jay was not a qualified applicant.

POVA claims to be proud of their affirmative action policies. However, the issue is much bigger than whom they have purchase pens, pencils, airline tickets, photography and other goods and services from in order to meet mandatory subcontracting goals. A simple investigation reveals that the lack of African Americans, and shows that POVA puts little if any, importance on this opportunity as they have done with their all out efforts to attract and cater to Japanese visitors.

Over the past 7 years, when challenged, POVA officials have always promised funding sources and others, that they will do better when it comes to African American and minority involvement, however their report card of progress is laughable. Their 1988 Minority Intern Program was never implemented, in 1991 the proposed Minority Convention Ambassador Project was insulting to Portland's Black community and not to mention two discrimination complaints filed against POVA by former Black employees.

POVA is not alone, the suspected conspiracy to ignore African Americans overlaps to other similar agencies and organizations involved in tourism and convention marketing.

What is surprising to many is that Sam Brooks, the self proclaimed advocate of promoting economic opportunities for Black and other minority businesses through his OAME, obviously has no real influence with his white counterparts on the MERC commission in recognizing the importance of including diversity of African Americans in contracting for convention marketing, convention servicing, top management nor other unrelated business endeavors.

Ed Washington, the elected African American METRO counselor and his other METRO commissioners, have rose to the occasion and unanimously decided to review the MERC Board Meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 10 at 6pm to be held at the old Sears building on NE Grand, which is the new headquarters for METRO. Not only the Black community plans to be in attendance, but also many other white businesses anticipate being present in support of the need for diversity in the convention marketing and servicing to the African American who has actually walked the walk and talked the talk over the years, Roy Jay.

Portland and Oregon have been the victim of economic business losses from the estimated \$4 billion per year that is generated from African American conventions, conferences and meetings on a nationwide basis. One of the most lucrative conventions ever to come to Portland to date was the International Church of God In Christ, a predominantly Black womens convention with over 10,000 delegates.

What METRO and other officials fail to realize is that Portland was the second choice only after Seattle refused to accommodate them. Other potential Black conventions and conferences have refused or postponed selecting Portland due to a lack of African American presence in the industry when they came to visit.

Other conventions have included National Black County Officials, national Black Journalist, National Association of Black Educators, Blacks In Government and others that were services with the assistance of Roy Jay and many other qualified Blacks including Lynda Grice, Yolanda Nims, Sharon Gary-Smith, the late Gladys McCoy, all working in unison to fill the gaps that POVA and others were not qualified to effectively handle.

Hopefully METRO will exercise their authority and understand the need to approve a separate and substantial contract as many other cities have done to include diversity in the most important levels of the regions convention and tourism business. It is obvious that POVA and other agencies are either not equipped, trained or seriously interested in a actively pursuing the potential \$4 billion dollar Black convention and tourism market.

According to many, Roy Jay's operation has continually demonstrated ability to work with all in the community to enhance convention and economic opportunities. Hotels, tour operators, meeting planners, restaurants and many others have applauded his efforts.

1993-94 International Trade And Development Graduate Fellowships

Seven Oregon State System of higher Education graduate students have been awarded the International Trade and Development Graduate Fellowships for the 1993-94 academic year.

The fellowships are supported by a \$1 million endowment to the State System from the Sasakawa Foundation of Tokyo. The endowment was given in 1991 when Chancellor Bartlett entered into agreement to establish the program. From interest earnings of approximately \$50,000 per year, the State System committee awards fellowships to graduate students to pursue coursework that will enhance their abilities to contribute to international understanding, world peace, the international political economy, and to careers in education, government, business, or human service in international areas.

Heinke Bonlander is a Oregon State University doctoral student in Public Health with an emphasis in international health. For her disserta-

tion research, Bonlander is studying tuberculosis in haiti, a country in which she served as a nurse and a researcher on immunization issues.

David V. Carruthers is a University of Oregon doctoral candidate in Political Science with an emphasis on comparative politics and international relations. In the summer of 1993, Carruthers will begin his dissertation fieldwork on rural political organizing in changing Mexico.

Roxanne Easley is a University of Oregon doctoral candidate in history with an emphasis on modern Russian history. Easley's dissertation centers on the institution of the peace arbitrator, created in 1861 in Russia to implement the emancipation of the serfs.

Bettina von Hagen is a Portland State University doctoral student in Urban Studies with an emphasis on natural resources management, and environmental and resource economics. Her interests are in finding alternatives to traditional development

systems that improve quality of life without environmental degradation or societal displacement.

Kreg Lindberg is a Oregon State University doctoral student in Forest Resources with a specialization in community and resource development. On his academic program, Lindberg is concentrating on economic and community development in coastal communities that attract tourism.

Dietrich Wetschereck is a Oregon State University doctoral candidate in Computer Sciences with an emphasis on machine learning. Wetschereck's dissertation research has the potential of teaching computers to identify and translate multiple languages.

George W. White is a University of Oregon doctoral candidate in Geography with an emphasis on political and ethnic geography of Central and Eastern Europe. For his dissertation project, White is undertaking four case studies of "ethnic space" in Eastern Europe.

AKA Announces 1993 Peace and Justice Award Winners

Drug Czar Dr. Lee Brown, PBS official Dr. Jennifer Lawson, and Africare have been named as recipients of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA)'s 1993 Peace and Justice Awards in law, media, and international relations, respectively. The presentations will be made July 23, in Atlanta dur-

ing AKA's biennial leadership seminar.

Recently named by President Clinton to head the nation's war on drugs, Dr. Brown is being honored for his achievements directing police departments in Atlanta, Houston, and New York. "He enacted programs

which were successful in building police forces which were fairer and more responsive to the needs of all classes and races, and we are delighted to salute him," said AKA international president Dr. Mary Shy Scott of Atlanta.

As executive vice president of national programming and promotion services for the Public Broadcasting Service, Dr. Lawson has been instrumental in creating more diversity in programming. Dr. Scott said AKA takes particular pleasure in saluting Dr. Lawson because "her selection as PBS' first chief of programming is a further indicator that Blacks and women are penetrating the glass ceiling and making a difference."

The selection of Africare as the recipient of the award in international relations marks the first time that AKA has chosen an organization, rather than an individual. Explaining the selection, Dr. Scott said, "As we began to consider nominees last fall, it was clear that the role Africare has played in calling attention to and addressing the plight of Africans is unparalleled, and so we thought it appropriate to make this move."

The awards, instituted in 1991 inaugural recipients were Oprah Winfrey, media; Andrew Young, international relations; and Roland Burris, Illinois attorney general, law.

Portland School District Will Cut 400 Positions

Superintendent Jack Bierwirth told board members that pink slips will be issued to approximately 400 persons employed by the Portland Public School district. There will be approximately 44 administrative, 96 teaching, 260 classified and maintenance, and some certified positions cut. Bierwirth said, "It is a very substantial number of positions, a lot less than it would have been had we lost \$51 million, but it's a substantial number."

The amount of people to be laid off is depending on retirements. The early retirement incentive will have an influence on what actually occurs.

The payroll includes about 6,600 employees which makes Multnomah County one of the largest employers. Some cuts were avoided in the classroom because the school year was shortened by two days. The service areas to students was hit heaviest.

The cuts will also affect the Green Thumb, Student Suspension, and Early Childhood Education Centers. The social workers who provide direct service to students were cut from 32 to 20.

Board members want people to understand that this is for this year only and by the time next year rolls around we may be in the same position again.

Public Assistance Sought In Sexual Assault-Robbery Investigation

Occurred-May 17, 1993 6800 N. Missouri Avenue

Portland Police Special Assault Detectives are seeking the public's assistance in regards to the attack of 45 year old woman, which occurred at 6:55 am on Monday, May 17, 1993 in the 6800 block of N. Missouri Avenue.

Reportedly, the victim was in the driveway of her home when the suspect approached her and stated that he allegedly had aids and was going to kill her. The suspect then scratched his face and then scratched the face of the victim, in an apparent attempt to transfer the virus. The suspect robbed the victim at knifepoint, pulled his pants down and began to pull the victim's pants down, when the victim's dog attacked the suspect and bit him on the left arm. The suspect then fled

the scene.

The suspect is described as a male white, 25-30 years of age, 6'1 tall, 140 pounds, red or auburn hair described as greasy and matted down, scabs and open sores on face, smelled of alcohol and was dirty as if he hadn't bathed in several days.

A composite drawing, which was just completed, of the suspect is available in the Public Information Office located in room 1526 of the Justice Center, 1111 SW 2nd Avenue.

Investigators report that there have not been any similar incidents reported in this area. Investigators ask anyone with information regarding this incident to please contact the Detective Division at (503) 796-3400. The investigation is continuing.

New County Chair Hooked Big One

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unteered for Vietnam where he helped close the huge air base at Da Nang. He retired from Fairchild AFB in Spokane with the rank of master sergeant. He had been in the Air Force almost continuously since his graduation from school in his home town, Canton, Miss., the only boy in a senior class of five.

From his various Air Force posts, Miggins took college courses on the side. At Fairchild he got a bachelor's degree in sociology from Ft. Wright college. When an opening developed on the college staff, Miggins left the service to become the school's business manager. He continued study and work, to earn a master's degree in human services and to become the college vice president for financial affairs. He was at Ft. Wright more than six years, until 1981 when he selected Portland for living.

As executive assistant to McCoy in Multnomah County's governing body, Miggins did most of the administrative chores in the office.

"I was essentially managing the county in the last three years," he said. "Gladys concentrated on legis-

lative business." Since he became acting chair he is learning to deal with that peculiar position that requires one person to be both executive officer and fellow commissioner.

Miggins sees this as a time for the county "to establish its identity." Change demands that the county set policy goals and establish priorities.

"We can't do it all," he cautions. "We have to decide what we can do with our resources; we have to make decisions."

Six years ago Miggins married Joan Peterson; both had children from previous marriages. Occasionally Hank and Joan go camping, in the company of their German shepherd, A.J. (no meaning). But lately there hasn't been time to savor all the liveability potential Miggins came here to enjoy.

Still there is some time for fishing—and fish stories. Last October Miggins and two friends put into the Trask River early one morning, and before the others got the boat anchored, Miggins answered a tug on his line and beheld a 52-pound salmon. It was his biggest catch ever.



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United Courier Workers Vote To Join Teamsters Union

Workers at the package delivery company, United Courier in Portland, Klamath Falls, Bend, Redmond, Sisters, Medford and Eugene voted overwhelmingly to join the Teamsters.

The workers complained that low wages, poor health insurance, no sick leave, no vacation or other benefits had been offered by the company. Most earn less than \$6 an hour. The company transports documents and packages for film labs, medical laboratories, banks and retail outlets. It is the largest contract courier in the Western U.S.

Eighty percent (80%) of the 65

workers originally signed cards asking the union to represent them in April, 1993. The vote to establish union representation was 36-3 in Portland, Klamath Falls, Bend, Redmond and Sisters, and 11-2 in Medford and Eugene.

The election in Portland nearly didn't happen. The company reversed itself and objected to an election on or near its property. It suggested workers vote in the street. The JLRB asked the Teamsters to cancel the election, which is guaranteed by law. The teamsters refused.

Organizer Lorene Scheer moved

the election to a nearby parking lot and the NLRB concurred.

The election is part of a national Teamster drive to organize this company. Elections at other United Courier branches are expected later this summer in Seattle/Tacoma, WA and throughout northern California. The Teamsters already won sizeable elections throughout the greater Los Angeles area.

This drive is part of a national campaign to organize the whole courier industry which is characterized by exploitation of workers, according to Scheer.

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