



# AGENDA PHILOMATH INCLUSIVITY AD HOC COMMITTEE

*Striving for a More Diverse & Just Philomath*

January 23, 2024

5:30 P.M.

Council Chambers; Philomath City Hall

980 Applegate St., Philomath, OR

**City Mission:** To promote ethical and responsive municipal government which provides its citizenry with high quality municipal services in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

- I. ATTENDANCE
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - A. November 28, 2023 minutes
- III. URGENT BUSINESS
- IV. BUSINESS
  - A. Council Co-Chair
  - B. Updates & Announcements
  - C. Black History Month banner, proclamation & events
  - D. Women's History Month proclamation & banner
  - E. Inclusivity Calendar: April -June
- V. NEXT MEETING
  - A. February 27, 2024, at 5:30 PM
  - B. Agenda item topics – Community Agreements, Women's History Month proclamation & banner, Inclusivity Calendar: April-July, PRIDE Event, Heritage Celebration/Awareness Banners, age-friendly communities discussion?
- VI. ADJOURNMENT

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** The public is encouraged to submit questions or comments about any agenda item in advance of the meeting to [chris.workman@philomathoregon.gov](mailto:chris.workman@philomathoregon.gov) for distribution to the Committee.

#### **MEETING ACCESS INFORMATION:**

This meeting is being held in-person at the City Hall Council Chambers, and the public is invited to attend. Public participation is also available via written or electronic participation. City meetings are live-streamed on the City's YouTube channel at: [City of Philomath - YouTube](#). This is a public page; no account or user fee is required.

Given two business days' notice, an interpreter can be provided for the hearing impaired or those with limited proficiency in English.

Contact the City Manager's Office to make interpreter or electronic participation arrangements:  
541-929-6148; [cityhall@philomathoregon.gov](mailto:cityhall@philomathoregon.gov); PO Box 400, Philomath, OR 97370

#### **Opportunities to Comment**

##### Methods:

1. Sign up to participate by contacting City Hall
2. Email written comments to City Hall
3. Drop written comments at City Hall
4. Mail written comments to City Hall

##### Must be received by:

- 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting
- 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting
- 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting
- 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting

1 **MINUTES**  
2 **PHILOMATH**  
3 **INCLUSIVITY AD HOC COMMITTEE**

4 November 28, 2023

5 5:30 P.M.

6 Council Chambers; Philomath City Hall

7 980 Applegate St., Philomath, OR

8  
9 I. ATTENDANCE

10 Meeting called to order at 5:33 p.m.

11 Committee Members Present: Jessica Andrade, Rose Bricker, Diane Crocker, Lauri Lehman,  
12 Amanda Polley, Nora Smith, Amanda Polly

13 Staff: City Manager Chris Workman  
14

15 II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 16 . October 24, 2023 minutes –added Jane as an attendant
- 17 . Under other –Crocker stated it was best to hold the event in the evening, not during  
18 the school day as recorded in the minutes.
- 19 . Approved by consensus (6 present)  
20

21 III. URGENT BUSINESS

- 22 . Discussion about best way to share information with other committee members.  
23

24 Jessica Andrade arrived at 5:50  
25

- 26 . Consensus for committee members to share information by placing papers on the  
27 back table for others to pick up or send to the city manager to disseminate to the  
28 group (7 present)  
29

30 IV. BUSINESS

31 A. Updates & Announcements

- 32 . Jessica provided updates from the recent council meeting and reviewed upcoming  
33 events.

34 B. Community Agreements

- 35 . Discussion around the terms confidentiality and permission; effectiveness of these  
36 types of agreements; value they bring to an organization; ability to enforce them; role  
37 they play as reminders to be kind.
- 38 . Rose expressed appreciation for the feedback and volunteered to edit and shorten  
39 them and bring something back to the committee for consideration.

40 C. Poverty in America Awareness Month social media post

- 41 . Rose reviewed the post information. Discussion about the use of the asterisk (\*) and  
42 agreement to remove it.
- 43 . Discussion around state and city poverty figures and agreement to leave it as is, but  
44 try to make future post more local/Philomath-related

45 D. Black History Month events and proclamation

- 46 . Jessica reviewed memo with recommended things the committee could do to provide  
47 additional support for the documentary event.
- 48 . Amanda volunteered to create a flier for the event. No live singer. Consensus to  
49 collect food for the food bank. Amanda volunteered to create a flier about the Shipley  
50 Historic Marker.
- 51 . Discussion to add information about the Black History Month events and add  
52 language about adding the proclaiming of the month. Christopher agreed to edit the  
53 proclamation and bring it back.

54 E. Heritage Celebration/Awareness Banners

- 1           · Discussion of how many banners to do each year and purpose of the banners.
- 2           · Agreement to avoid placing specific people on the banner but to use social media.
- 3           · Discussion of which banner to use and agreement to reach out to Corvallis NAACP
- 4           for their opinion.

5  
6 V.   NEXT MEETING

7    A. December 26, 2023, at 5:30 PM (Note: Confirm quorum due to holiday weekend)

- 8           · Agreement to cancel the December meeting.
- 9           · Jane and Rose volunteered to draft a women’s history proclamation.
- 10          · Jane Volunteered to be co-chair for next three months.

11  
12    B. Agenda item topics – Black History Month events & proclamation, Heritage  
13       Celebration/Awareness Banners, Women’s History Month proclamation, discussion  
14       about supporting an age-friendly community?

15  
16 VI.   ADJOURNMENT

17    Meeting adjourned at 7:25

18  
19    Minutes recorded by Chris Workman, City Manager

*Philomath* CITY OF  
 The City of Philomath  
**HONORS:**  
**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

[ci.philomath.or.us/inclusivity](http://ci.philomath.or.us/inclusivity)

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**CITY OF PHILOMATH  
RESOLUTION 24-\_\_**

**PROCLAIMING FEBRUARY 2024 TO BE  
BLACK HISTORY MONTH IN THE CITY OF PHILOMATH**

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**WHEREAS**, we honor Black History by acknowledging past injustices while seeking a more inclusive, equitable, and just path forward; and,

**WHEREAS**, the first of Oregon’s exclusion laws, adopted in 1844, mandated that Black Oregonians would be publicly whipped —every six months— until they departed; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Oregon constitution of 1857 prohibited Black Oregonians from owning real estate, making contracts, voting, or using the legal system; and,

**WHEREAS**, the federal Donation Land Act of 1850 granted free land in Oregon exclusively to white settlers, creating a white landowning class that continues to hold great privilege and power in Oregon to this day; and,

**WHEREAS**, these and other racist laws and policies sent messages that Black Oregonians were not welcome; and,

**WHEREAS**, this foundation in racist policies continues to have implications for Black people who visit or reside in the state of Oregon; and,

**WHEREAS**, many Black people have made Oregon and the City of Philomath their home and have made significant contributions to this state and our community, including the donation of lands for Mount Union Cemetery by Mr. Reuben Shipley in 1861; and,

**WHEREAS**, Black people are valued and vital members of the Philomath community; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Philomath City Council is committed to creating a community where all who come here can feel safe and welcome; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Philomath City Council is committed to moving forward towards dismantling and transforming unjust and racist systems where they persist.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that we, the City Council and Inclusivity Committee of the City of Philomath, Oregon hereby proclaim the month of February to be Black History Month in the City of Philomath; and,

1 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we reaffirm that racial discrimination, hatred, and white  
2 supremacy have no place in the City of Philomath or our government; and,

3  
4 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we call on the people of our community to join us in learning  
5 about the history of Black people in Oregon and in Philomath, and in combating racism  
6 wherever it is found.

7  
8 PASSED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day off February 2024.

9  
10 APPROVED by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of February 2024.

11  
12 SIGNED:

ATTEST:

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14 \_\_\_\_\_

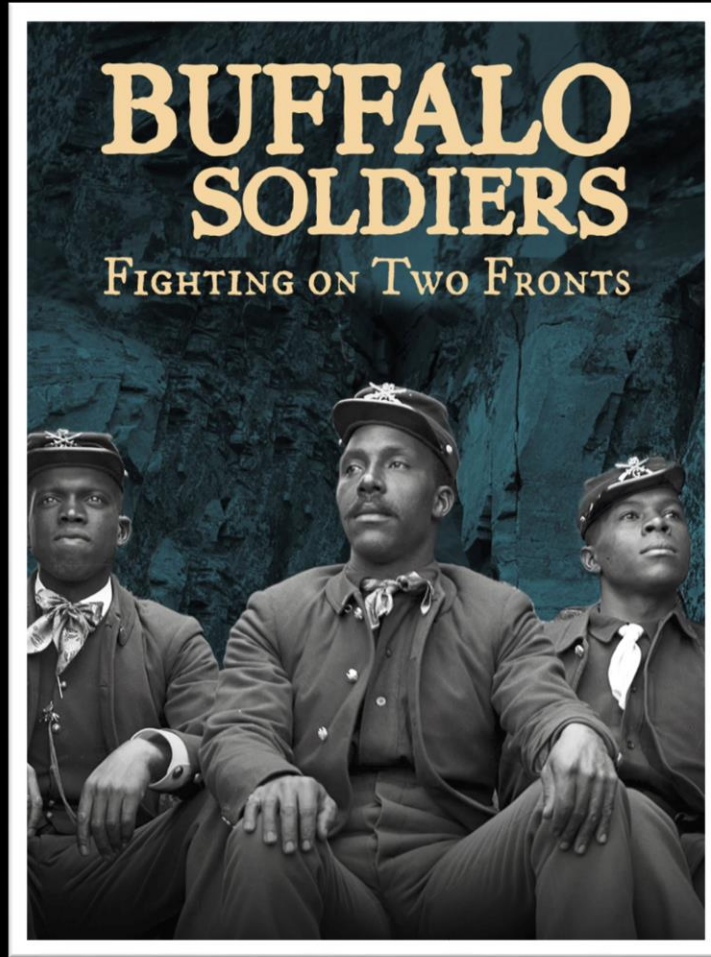
\_\_\_\_\_

15 Chas Jones, Mayor

Ruth Post, MMC, City Recorder

16

# Black History Month Free Movie Screening



**Thursday, February 22, 2024**

**7:00 PM – 9:00 PM**

**Philomath High School  
2024 Applegate St, Philomath, OR**

Following the movie, Director Dru Holley from Vancouver, Washington and Oregon Black Pioneers President Zachary Stocks will be available to answer questions from the audience.

This event made possible through the generous support of these sponsors



Philomath Community Services (PCS) will be accepting canned food donations. These items go directly to help those in need in our community this winter.



CITY OF PHILOMATH  
INCLUSIVITY COMMITTEE

INVITES YOU TO CELEBRATE

07  
FEB  
2024

BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH

6:30-  
7:30PM

AT THE PHILOMATH MUSEUM

Join us in collective reflection of the myths and realities of African-American history, Oregon's complex Black history and the lived experience of growing up and living in Philomath as a Person of Color

WITH SPEAKERS

Philomath Resident

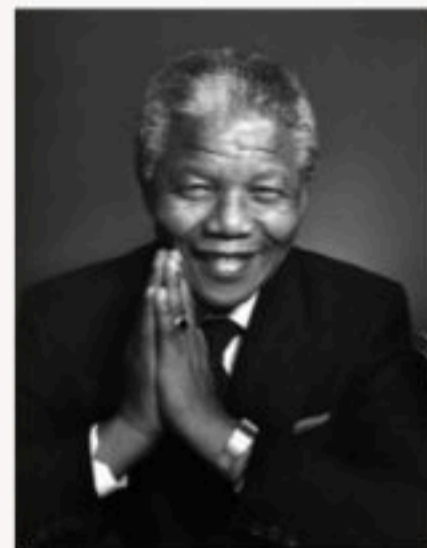
Zina Allen

- AND -

OSU Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies

Dr. Robert D. Thompson, Jr., PhD

PHILOMATH MUSEUM - 1101 MAIN STREET PHILOMATH OR



## Honoring the Shipley Family Legacy – A story of enslavement, resilience, and remarkable generosity

In 1853, Reuben Shipley, a Black enslaved man and overseer of a large plantation in Missouri, agreed to drive a team of oxen to Oregon with the Robert Shipley family, in exchange for his freedom. After arriving in Benton County, Oregon, Reuben worked on the farm of Eldrige Hartless, a neighboring pioneer of the Plymouth community. Reuben saved \$1,500 and bought 80 acres adjoining the Shipley's farm. Reuben married Mary Jane Holmes, an enslaved Black woman from Colonel Nathaniel Ford, who purchased the settlement of Rickreall.

Slaves were not legal in Oregon and court cases are recorded about this family. Reuben purchased Mary Jane's freedom for \$700. This is believed to be the first case of an enslaved person being sold in Oregon as property.

In 1861, Reuben Shipley donated two acres of his farm for the establishment of Mt. Union cemetery on the condition that Black people could be buried there. The name given to the cemetery was chosen to show unity with the anti-slavery Northern forces during the Civil War. Today, the cemetery is cared for by volunteers and hosts an annual Memorial Day program.



*Mary Jane Shipley Holmes*

### Philomath Celebrates Black History Month

FREE MOVIE: Buffalo Soldiers, Fighting On Two Fronts  
February 22, 2024, 7:00 p.m. Philomath High School Auditorium  
For more information, visit [www.ci.philomath.or.us/inclusivity](http://www.ci.philomath.or.us/inclusivity)

Use this QR Code to view *The Journey*,  
a 14-minute film about the  
Shipley Family Legacy



In 2022, a community of partners collaborated with the Oregon Travel Information Council to design, fund, and dedicate this historical marker that honors the Shipley Family.



This Historical Marker sits in Newton Creek Park on James Street in Philomath.

Soon afterward, the Ohren Family and the Mt. Union Cemetery Association commissioned local Philomath artist Bud Thomas to create this beautiful archway at the entrance to Mt. Union Cemetery.



Both serve as fitting remembrances of the Shipley Family and celebrate diversity, inclusivity, and Black History within the Philomath community.



**CITY OF PHILOMATH  
RESOLUTION 24-\_\_**

**WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, gender diversity has existed throughout time and across cultures, therefore “women” and “girls” in this proclamation refers to all gender expansive people: cisgender, trans, non-binary, gender non-conforming, gender queer and anyone woman- or girl-identified.

**WHEREAS**, the first Women’s History Week was proclaimed by then-President Jimmy Carter in 1980 and in subsequent years developed into Women’s History Month by Congress in 1987.

**WHEREAS**, the theme for National Women’s History Month in 2024 is “Women Who Advocate for Equity” to recognize women throughout the country who understand that, for a positive future, we need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and institutions.

**WHEREAS**, despite the innumerable contributions women have made and continue to make, too little is taught or even known about the enormous impact women have on our collective national history.

**WHEREAS**, women from every part of society have been part of the building of Philomath, beginning with the first group of settlers and continuing throughout history.

**WHEREAS**, women of Philomath have served our country proudly and with courage.

**WHEREAS**, women of Philomath have been leaders, fighting for freedom and justice throughout history.

**WHEREAS**, women of Philomath have been and continue to be an economic, cultural and social strength who work together to build a strong community.

**WHEREAS**, we recognize women of Philomath have had an important role throughout history providing much of the unpaid labor and volunteer services to our community.

**WHEREAS**, women are making history every day and will continue to do so in ways that will change our community and our country for the better.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** we the City Council and Inclusivity Committee of the City of Philomath, Oregon hereby proclaim March 2024 to be Women’s History Month. We call on the people of our community to join us in celebrating the countless women who have fought tirelessly and courageously for equality, justice and opportunity in our communities and in our Nation.

PASSED by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March 2024.

APPROVED by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March 2024.

SIGNED:

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


Chas Jones, Mayor

Ruth Post, MMC, City Recorder

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