

Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission

October 6, 2015 (6:00-8:00 PM)

Seattle City Hall, Room 370

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Tsegaba Woldehaimanot, Mindy Au, Michele Ramirez, , Riddhi Mukhopadhyay, Roxana Norouzi, Jeniffer Calleja, Luis Ortega, Marilena Morales, Dori Cahn.

Commissioners Absent: Kianoush Naficy, Simon Khin, Veasna Adrian Hoy, Farhiya Mohamed, Isatou Jallow

OIRA Staff Present: Maha Jahshan

Call to Order: 6:05 pm

Welcome (Co-Chairs)

Michelle opened the meeting. Riddhi moved to approve the September minutes and Luis seconded. They were unanimously approved. Welcomed new commissioner Laurel S.

OIRA Director's Report

Maha gave the Director's Report. She highlighted OIRA's outreach events and the Deputy Director search.

SDOT Presentation (Michelle Marx)

Michelle Marx presented the work of SDOT pedestrian master survey plan. She asked the commissioners for feedback on survey language and outreach strategies to immigrant and refugee communities.

RSJI Meeting Update

Commissioners mentioned that the discussion was held over the conference call and they thought it would be better to have these types of discussion in meeting rather than over the phone in order to get the maximum amount of feedback.

Emerging Trends and Issues in the Community (Co-Chairs)

Discussed the upcoming city budget hearings and implications it has on immigrant and refugee communities. The commission will discuss actions once the budget is released.

Michelle put a motion to write a letter on behalf of commission and Dori seconded to write a letter on budget items they support including OIRA. Riddhi will write a draft letter based on people's feedback and will send it via email to be voted on.

Subcommittee Updates (All)-

The Education subcommittee looking to set up an educational field trip to Seattle World School and a dual language preschool. Follow up with email and potential days. In the middle of work day. 1:15-3:45 talking with admin and seeing the classroom. Send a Doodle poll for staff.

Announcements (All)-

Dori will be out of town from Nov 10th to 25th.

Adjourn

The commission adjourned at 8:05 pm.