



City of Seattle

Michael J McGinn, Mayor

Seattle Office for Civil Rights

Julie Nelson, Director



Immigrant and Refugee Advisory Board January 3, 2012 City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room L-280 Meeting Agenda

TIME	AGENDA	PRESENTER	BOARD ACTIONS Quorum Req'd
6:00-6:30	Welcome / Housekeeping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and approve meeting notes of December 6, 2011 Announcements SOCR Report 	Co-Chairs Glenn Harris	Approval
6:30-6:45	Youth and Job-Readiness Training RFI Update	Diane Pien and Kellie Nakano	
6:45-7:15	Transition/Updates to New Office for Immigrant and Refugee Affairs	All Members	
7:15-8:00	Work Plan Goals and Assignments	All Members	
8:00	Adjournment		

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**Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission
January 4th, 2011, 6:00-8:00 PM
City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room-L280**

Meeting Minutes

- Commissioners Present:** Ashraf Alazadi, Cherry Cayabyab, Jesus Y. Rodriguez, Magdaleno M Rose-Avila, Pradeepta Upadhyay, Yasemin San, Tsegaba Woldhaimanot,
- Commissioners Absent:** Devon Alisa Abdallah, Andrea Caupain, Shree Ram Dahal, Mohamed Sheikh Hassan, Lesley Irizarry-Hougan, Michael Neguse,
- Commissioners by Phone:** Bincy Jacob
- SOCR Staff Present:** Julie Nelson, Ron Ramp
- Guests:** Lauren Lee
- Guest Speakers:** Diane Pien, Kellie Nakano
- Call to Order:** Call to order at 6:05 PM
- Approval of Minutes:** December minutes approved

Announcements

Cherry announced that the redistricting campaign was successful

Ashraf announced students that receive reduced school lunches can receive Comcast internet for \$9.95 per month

Some bills are coming up in Olympia. The gang bill that would allow easy deportation is one of them. The bill is an attack on people of color.

Jesus announced an upcoming I&R Commission community event that the Mayor will attend. It will be located at the Refugee Women's Alliance at 4008 Martin Luther King Way S from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM January 31st. Everyone is encouraged to circulate this event widely. Volunteer moderators and scribes are needed.

SOCR Report

Julie Nelson announced that Ron Ramp will be stepping into an out of class opportunity to support the commission. The commitment is for 10 hours per week until March 2012. Six of the fair housing tests resulted in director's charges. Five cases settled for the property owner's are reimbursing the city for the cost of the tests, changing polices, and attending fair housing training. The only case not to settle is a strong one. In a different settlement apartment manager asked for an extra \$300.00 deposit per child which is, of course illegal. Julie offered SOCR support on the commission's 2012 work plan.

Youth and Job Readiness Grants

Diane Pien and Kellie Nakano of the Human Services Department (HSD) spoke about a new grant program for youth and job readiness.

HSD will soon begin a request for investment (RFI) process for a youth and job readiness program. The total grant is for \$465,000 and will be spread over 5 agencies; each agency receiving about \$93,000. This program will run from May 2012 to May 2013. Participant age range is from 15 to 20 years old. The program participants must speak one of nine languages. The program will focus on self sufficiency, and include working with parents.

The *agency* application process has two processes or pathways. Two of the 5 organizations will be "developing organizations" that will receive additional support from the application process through exaction of the program. Three of five organizations will be "experienced". The developing organizations demographics must match the communities they serve. The experienced organizations will not have that requirement. However, it will be part of the rating process for the experienced organizations. HSD has asked the commission for a panelist to evaluate and rate the applying organizations. Possible conflicts of interest should be considered. The time commitment is substantial. Five days to review proposals, and three days on interviews, and one day follow up. The time commitment is about nine days. Please contact Lauren Lee at HSD if you are interested in be considered for this. Lauren's number is 386-1141 or lauren.lee@seattle.gov

The commission expressed and discussed concerns about the job readiness grants' demographic requirements. Specifically no requirement for the experienced organization to reflect the demographics of the community they serve. HSD indicated that the demographics of the experienced organizations would be considered in the evaluation processes. However, they did not want to disqualify a potentially good fit for the program based on a requirement.

Transition Update

The commissioners shared feedback on community meetings about the creation of the new office. Cherry said the first meeting had about 6 or 7 people. The feedback was around the new Director's job description. The role of the new office connecting the community with the Mayor's office. The idea of mapping opportunities and partnering was discussed. It is important the new Director bring the city together across the large spectrum of departments and services on commission issues. It was mentioned the Director is appointment by the Mayor. The recruitment of the Director should result in a large number of applicants. The mayor mentioned a two year commitment to fund the new office. This is until

end of his term. It was mentioned he could not commit past the end of his current term in office. It was discussed how much advocacy and autonomy the new office would have.

Work Plan Goals and Assignments

The commission did not have copies of the draft work plan that is on a spreadsheet, and meeting attendance was fairly low. It was decided that the work plan discussion would be tabled until the next meeting on February 7th. Action item, SOCR will distribute the draft work plan to the commission via listserv.

Unfinished Business

The commission sent a letter to the city council about eliminating Rose's position. A written response has not been received. The commission would like to follow up on this issue, and receive a written response. Action Item write a letter to council asking for a written response on the issue.

The Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 PM

