COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION (CIC)

June 27, 2022

6:00 – 8:00 pm

Webex Meeting & Phinney Neighborhood Association

**Commissioners present:** Ahoua Koné (she/her), Krissie Dillin, Robert Radford, Saba Rahman (she/her)

**Commissioners not in attendance:** Martha Lucas (she/her), Julia Jannon-Shields (she/her)

**People with pending Commissioner appointments in attendance:** Bill Southern (he/him), Marcus White (he/him)

**City of Seattle Staff present**: Alvin Edwards (Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, he/him), Laura Jenkins (Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, she/her)

***(Transcriber’s Note: The notes shown below are summaries of statements provided. They are not transcriptions and have been shortened and edited to include the major points raised. Full comments are retained in the files in voice recording and available upon request.***

# Public Comment

There were no public comments.

# Vote on 4/18/22 & 5/16/22 Meeting Minutes

Commissioners voted to approve the Community Involvement Commission’s 4/18/22 and 5/16/22 meeting minutes.

# Finish Icebreaker – Two Truths & A Lie

# Co-staff Liaison Updates

Staff Liaisons Alvin Edwards and Laura Jenkins provided these updates:

* Appointments
  + By the end of the month, City Council will vote on two pending commissioner appointments for Marcus White and Bill Southern. The tentative date for a full Council vote is July 19.
  + The Mayor’s Office and City Council will review the applications received for open Community Involvement Commission seats.
    - Commissioners requested that new commissioners attend the July 23 retreat as members of the public if possible. Staff Liaisons said they could encourage a fast turnaround and will keep the commission updated.
* Co-chairs – vote at July meeting
  + Once the two additional commissioners are appointed, a vote for co-chairs will happen at the July retreat (7/23) or August meeting.
* July meeting – Office of Planning & Community Development (OPCD) Comprehensive Plan updates
  + An OPCD representative will come to the July meeting (7/18) to discuss the outreach on the One Seattle Comprehensive Plan.
  + They would like to present their engagement strategy and timeline, and to invite the Community Involvement Commission to engage around how community voices can be mobilized to create a Plan that is reflective of the needs, desires, and perspectives of Seattle’s communities, particularly those which have been historically and systematically left out of critical long-rang planning processes like the Comprehensive Plan.
  + The Comprehensive Plan Update will guide City decisions about where we locate housing and jobs, and where and how we invest in things that we need to grow as a city. Its policies steer how the City will spend money on transportation, utilities like electricity, drainage & wastewater, parks & open space, and many other public services and infrastructures that will be needed as we grow over the next 20 years. Our goal is to shape a Seattle that is more equitable, livable, sustainable, and resilient for our communities, both now and in the future.

# Ask from Director of Department of Neighborhoods

Director Wong has asked the Commission to describe what successful community engagement post-pandemic would look like. How community wants to be informed differently, connect/gather differently, etc.?

* In their experience and the experience of the communities they work with, if there are gaps, etc.
* How should the City of Seattle engage with the community in terms of outreach and meeting the needs of the communities?

He is hoping for an answer by the September meeting. After discussion about having the Commission fully organized (goals, charge, etc.), Commissioners think September might be too soon.

# Recruitment

There's a Get Engaged member (18-29 years old) to be selected through the YMCA. The Mayor’s Office and Seattle Department of Neighborhoods staff work with the YMCA to determine candidates. The application for this position is open through June 30.

* Bill Southern asked if the YMCA shares this opportunity out with local colleges & universities. Co-staff liaisons will check into this and get back to the commission.

For the additional open positions, the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods communications staff created a flyer to spread the word about the open application. The application is open until July 10.

# Retreat Planning

Retreat planned for Saturday, July 23 from 10am-3pm. This will be a meeting that is open to the public.

A subset of the Commission, Commissioner Krissie Dillin, Commissioner Martha Lucas, Bill Southern, and Marcus White, agreed to brainstorm about the retreat. They will meet separately to determine where and how they want to meet.

* Commissioner Saba Rahman brought up how she wants to communicate with the City to work with them and what is expected of them by the City. She also mentioned team building as a possible topic.
* Commissioner Ahoua Koné said that the commissioners don't have to address everything in one retreat. She said that they should at least be clear on the main priorities that they want to achieve. She likes the idea of the retreat being commissioner-facilitated.
* There was also discussion about inviting Jim Diers, the first director of the Department of Neighborhoods, to talk with the commissioners about the history of DON, the major challenges and what was accomplished during his tenure.
* A City Councilmember or the current Director of the Department of Neighborhoods were also brought up as potential speakers for the retreat.

There was talk about having meetings throughout the city and using the meeting to do outreach to the various communities. The idea was to have the meetings at community centers whereby the community could speak directly to the commission about their specific issues. There was also discussion about having solutions to neighborhood problems before meeting in their neighborhood. More to talk about at the retreat.

# Public Comment

The commission asked a member of the public in attendance their thoughts. The public attendee suggested finding a current City employee or community organization to speak at the retreat. They said they feel like the commission is really trying to work towards something based on that day’s conversation.

The meeting was adjourned.