

Seattle Women's Commission

Monday, March 21, 2022, 5:30 –7:30 p.m.

Attendees: Abriel Johnny*, Rebecca Bryant*, Jema Turk*, Whitney Nakamura*, Sarah Liu*, Jamilah Williams*, Tana Yasu*, Kyla Evans*, Natasha Bennett (Human Rights Commissioner), Vinati Midala*, Rev Dr. Elizabeth Gordon, Kyana Wheeler (SOCR), Marta Idowu (SOCR), Meredith Stone (SOCR), Janet Stafford (SOCR)

*denotes SWC commissioners

Facilitator: R. Bryant

Note taker: S. Liu

Timekeeper: R. Bryant

Attendance: https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1LeLk0_7I5dE4IO56C7ngyng-gU7CUM5Rq3fWpx7xNZE/edit?usp=sharing

Time

Time	Topic	Lead
5:33-5:54	Welcome Introductions Attendance spreadsheet Approve minutes for December, January, & February meeting Attendees introduced themselves. We will be using the spreadsheet linked in the header to track attendance from now on. Tana made a motion to approve minutes and Whitney seconded it. All voted to approve meeting minutes except for Marcia who abstained from voting for the Jan and Feb minutes.	R. Bryant
5:54-6:24	Land acknowledgement Abriel led a great land acknowledgement created by the Indigenous Nations Committee at her work She is also leading the effort to create a land acknowledgement specific to the SWC with a work group. She created a slide deck with valuable information about how to create a land acknowledgement. The deck will be shared in pdf format afterwards. Important points from her presentation include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land acknowledgements are an honest and historically accurate way to recognize the traditional tribal nations of this land	A. Johnny

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land acknowledgements are important because they honor the original occupants of this land, provide solid framework for healing, and recognize how systemic and institution systems have oppressed them • The wrong way to create a land acknowledgement is to be dry or scripted because it appears ingenuine. The same acknowledgement shouldn't be shared over and over again because it also feels ingenuine. It should be a living document that evolves as we develop a greater understanding. • Components to create a land acknowledgement include self reflection, focusing on the positivity of who indigenous people are today, etc. • Land acknowledgements alone are not enough and are just a starting point <p>People who want to join the Land Acknowledgement Working Group - Rebecca, Whitney, Rachel, Kyla</p> <p>Elizabeth found this information helpful and will bring it to her downtown clergy association</p> <p>Kyana noted that our current presence is the outcome of this oppression and ethnic cleansing so we need to be cognizant of that and hold multiple truths. She also says that as the process gets moving, it would be impactful to share this practice with other Commissions.</p> <p>Diya asked how we can make sure our commitment to this work is not limited to our work plan this year. Abriel wants to put this in the protocol and have the land acknowledgement be a living document. It could also be included in our onboarding process. Rebecca mentioned that it could be good to reassess it each year as part of our retreat.</p> <p>Whitney asked about the timeline of this work. Abriel wants to get it done as soon as possible but also wants for it to be done correctly. It took 3 months for her work's land acknowledgement to be created.</p> <p>Tana asked to highlight indigenous women in our land acknowledgement given the commission's focus. Abriel mentioned this could be appropriate but she needs to do research to confirm</p> <p>Kyla suggests writing a follow up email about this to the whole commission since some people couldn't join the meeting today.</p>	
<p>6:24-6:37</p>	<p>Housekeeping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes process • SWC Google Drive • Other projects 	<p>K. Evans</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May meeting <p>Zoe True left our commission recently and Kyla brought up doing something to acknowledge her work and contributions to the commission since she served on it for so long.</p> <p>Rebecca asked if we could send a submission to city council to acknowledge her work. At the congressional level, they allow for 1 minute speeches that are put on record. Meredith still needs to check if this is possible. Tana said that we never did city acknowledgements before.</p> <p>Diya recommends creating a Kudo Board and will take the lead on creating this for Zoe.</p> <p>Kyla says the notetaker should send a Word document version of the meeting minutes to co-chairs and Marta after the meeting.</p> <p>Kyla wants to encourage more people to use the Google Drive to build up institutional knowledge and not have to recreate the wheel.</p> <p>Whitney asked when SWC will transition to Teams and Kyana said we will be transitioning to Teams by the end of the month.</p> <p>Kyla encouraged commissioners to bring project ideas that aren't strictly tied to our work plan and people can get work groups going for them.</p> <p>We are considering having a hybrid meeting in May. We have access to the building right now and there is no fee for renting one of the rooms for commission meetings.</p> <p>People who are interested in attending in-person - Sarah, Vinati, Marcia, Jema, Jamilah, Kyla, Rebecca</p>	
<p>6:37-6:56</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee report outs • Meetings with Mayor & City Council <p>Sarah shared that the Government and Community Relations Subcommittee created a spreadsheet for potential partnerships we could have with community organizations and encourages everyone to add to it. Our commission could broaden our reach and collaborate with organizations on events and initiatives.</p> <p>Sarah also shared an idea to create public art that aligns with our commission mission, which was inspired by several meaningful sculptures the Kirkland Cultural Arts Commission put up in Downtown Kirkland. Art conveys a message and by creating art that embodies diversity/female empowerment and placing that art in a</p>	<p>Subcommittee Co-chairs</p>

	<p>public space, it can not only spread more awareness about our commission but also inspire the women who see it.</p> <p>Some art ideas that were shared include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a statue that embodies female empowerment - a mural that embodies female empowerment - a temporary art exhibit that showcases art from women in our community <p>Marta said this could be done and voiced her support for the idea. She said we could collaborate with the Arts and Culture Commission on this. She previously had an art event for Domestic Violence Awareness month where people could express themselves through decorating shirts.</p> <p>Tana said she works with the arts district and asked if this could be done before Women’s History Month ends but Sarah and Rebecca said it would be difficult to get it in this month given it is still in the ideation phase.</p> <p>People who expressed interest in Art working group - Kyla, Tana, Rebecca</p> <p>Marta said that Derrick Wheeler will be at our April meeting and asks us to send questions for him. Kyla created a Google doc for the questions.</p> <p>Mayor finally confirmed the Get Engaged Commissioners.</p>	
<p>6:56-7:18</p>	<p>Outreach Committee</p> <p>Abriel created a great slide deck that outlined our recruitment process and noted that we should identify gaps in diversity in our commission.</p> <p>Diya said we are at a critical junction, and we should add emphasis on highlighting the lived experiences of our commissioner candidates.</p> <p>People who expressed interest in Outreach working group - Rebecca, Diya, Jamilah</p> <p>Sarah shared that the partnerships spreadsheet the Gov and Community Relations subcommittee created could also be helpful in identifying which orgs we could work with for recruitment.</p>	<p>A. Johnny</p>
<p>7:18-7:28</p>	<p>Events:</p> <p>March: Women's History Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jeanette Williams Award <p>April: Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #Denim_Day 	<p>T. Yasu</p>

	<p>Whitney recently notified the Jeanette Williams award winner of her win. Her subcommittee will create a blog post, social media post, and short recording for the award winner.</p> <p>For Sexual assault awareness month, Tana suggests creating an op-ed where we share our own challenges coming out of covid. She also wants to work on a report to get resources and info out to women. Rebecca says this would be a great thing for the Policy subcommittee to work on. Diya says that, from a media perspective, it is important to take into consideration that the process for publishing op-eds can take around 4-6 weeks.</p> <p>There was a question of who was on the Policy and Advocacy Sub Committee and it consists of Morgan, Tana, Ophelia, Abriel</p> <p>Abriel says it would be helpful if the Communications subcommittee could propose a social media communications calendar of when and how (paid ads, social media posts, etc) and frequency to support recruitment process and outreach</p>	
<p>7:28-7:30</p>	<p>SOCR Updates</p> <p>Meredith is creating a recruitment flyer and wants a quote from one of the SWC commissioners about their commissioner experience.</p> <p>Meredith says that their Teams site has a robust onboarding page so we should reach out to her when we look into creating SWC onboarding documents to avoid duplicate work.</p>	<p>M. Idowu</p>
<p>7:30</p>	<p>Adjourned</p> <p>Tana made a motion to adjourn. Tana seconds her own motion.</p>	