

February 18th , 2021

Seattle Disability Commission

Also known as;

Commission for People with DisAbilities

Draft Meeting Notes

2/18/21 4:00pm - 6:00pm

Zoom Conference Call

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87411281048?pwd=VzBrZUpxS
HUvZ1Z0aWFUeExPTWY3UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87411281048?pwd=VzBrZUpxS
HUvZ1Z0aWFUeExPTWY3UT09)

Meeting ID: **874 1128 1048** Passcode: **Ability**

Passcode: 5707615

One tap mobile: **253.215.8782**

Commission Members Present:

- Via Zoom: Anquida Adams, Kristina Sawyckyj, Hannah Wilson, Khazm Kogita, Kaitlin Skilton, ChrisTiana ObeySummer

- Unexcused Absence:

- Excused Absence: Jessica Williams-Hall, Jayson Morris, Paula Orrego

Guests:

Taylor Woods (city resident who came to listen)

Avery Berchauer (commission candidate)

Sarah Morehead, Assistant US attorney, Department of Justice – enforces ADA public accommodations and would like to learn about the commission and potential overlap.

Kim Pearson, Puget Sound Regional Council – The Council is a regional planning agency for King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish Counties that works on planning for transportation, housing, and the general growth of the region. The council is updating the regional transportation plan and is engaging outreach efforts to different communities with various mobility needs. They have a survey that can be distributed.

OCR: Molly Brewer (OCR Liaison to Commission),
Helen Gebreamlak (OCR Policy Staff)

Facilitators: Maralise Hood-Quan, Antasia Williams

Meeting Called to Order at 4:03pm

Meeting Norms

- Reviewed.

Announcements & Public Comment

Technical Check-in

Approval of the Minutes

- November 2020 - Approved
- January 2020 - Approved

Co-Chair Nominee Statements and Vote

Anquida Adams, Kristina Sawyckyj, Kaitlin Skilton,
Hannah Wilson.

Anquida's Speech: Communicated she would like to be co-chair because she has already shown up as a leader within the commission; navigated toxicity, helped maintain structure, engaged in outreach, and brought in guest speakers. As Co-chair she will lead with integrity, values, and morals. The focus of her tenure will be helping constituents and making sure the commission helps inform policy for City Council and the Mayor.

Christina's Speech: Withdrew her candidacy

Kaitlin: Took time to decide if being co-chair is something she can do as she is new to activism. Kaitlin shared that she has gained confidence and feels like she can do the job.

Hannah: Hannah shared her journey on the commission which started with her being a "Get Engaged" member who recently graduated from college. She also highlighted her identity as a deaf, disabled woman who is queer and mixed race black. Hannah also highlighted her proudest achievement on the commission which was putting together a panel

with the LGBTQ Commission where queer, disabled, people of color shared their wisdom and lived experience. As co-chair Hannah will focus on hosting more panels and educational workshops so there are concrete avenues for community engagement as well as opportunities for relationship building. Hannah will also focus on improving recruitment. Internally, Hannah will focus on creating sustainable and functioning structure for the commission.

The Vote

Anquida: 3 (Kaitlin, Anquida, Hannah)

Kaitlin: 0

Hannah: 4 (Kaitlin, Anquida, Hannah, Khazm)

Results – Hannah and Anquida are co-chairs

Recruitment:

The goal of this discussion is to think together creatively about outreach, recruitment, interviews, selection, onboarding, and orientation.

The plan outlined in 2020 was to review applications through march and have them approved by mid-April. Currently the Commission only has two applicants, therefore the Commission does not have enough people to conduct a full interview process.

A perception shared by a former co-chair is that harm has been done in the community and people perceive the commission as an unsafe place to be.

Recruitment Process

1. Promote to get applicants. (Feb)
2. Support people in applying
3. Review applications (March)
4. Interviews (March)
5. Select and appoint (April)
6. Onboard

Commissioner: We need to expand our search to different communities. People often just stick to their group. We need to be consistent in our efforts.

Commissioner: I've tried reaching out but it hasn't been successful. I think people view the commission as not very active. The commission's social media presence is not that active.

Commissioner: Nominated Kaitlin to chair a taskforce for the recruitment process.

Commissioner – Because of the state of leadership in the commission there has been a lack of recruitment effort. We can all push on social media more. We also need to repair our relationships in the community.

OCR – This is a great time to pause and consider the Commission's Selection Criteria to ensure we are appointing people who are representative of the community and who center race equity and disability justice.

OCR's goal is to appoint 4-5 people to the commission over the next year. There are currently 13 vacancies however that is more people than are currently in the commission which might be too much.

Commissioner: If we do onboarding correctly, utilizing people of the past to act as mentors – I think we can successfully bring on 13 new people.

Guest: Even though I am not a commissioner I have been engaging in outreach efforts. If you are posting to social media, I highly recommend the usage of hashtags that are relevant to disability awareness; disability pride as well as diversity, equity, and inclusion are all really good ones.

I am someone who didn't even know the commission existed a year ago so I think a general awareness campaign would be helpful.

I personally applied to be on the commission back in May. There has been a lot of back and forth but I am still not a member of the Commission. I think the Commission can lose potential members this way. I think its important to create a concrete timeline for application review.

Commissioner – You are not alone in that experience, I waited a year and 4 months.

OCR: We have a draft review questions that Hannah and Anquida worked on.

The current process of choosing who will be on the commission is taking the feedback of the Commission and OCR. If feedback is positive enough, the individual will move forward to appointment.

OCR Updates

Logo contest

Received submissions. Going to compile them and hand them off to co-chairs.

Budget

The commission spent \$400 in 2020 on trophies that are meant for 2021 usage. The trophies have not yet been ordered. OCR has the contact information for the vendor.

Marketing: The Commission spent \$600 in 2020 on 2021 marketing materials. Again, these materials have not yet been ordered. OCR has the contact information for the vendor.

Retreat Agenda Options

Meeting Adjourned at 5:35pm

Action Items

Future Agenda Items