

May 12, 2010
NOTES
Seattle Municipal Tower, 4112 41st Floor
Sweatfree & Slave Free Purchasing Policy Advisory Committee
2:30 – 4:00 pm

Invitees:

- ✓ Nate Van Duzen, CM Tim Burgess
- ✓ Kristen Beifus, Director, Washington Fair Trade Coalition
- ✓ Dolly Small, City Purchasing, Contracting Equity Manager
- ✓ Julie McCarty, Department of Personnel
- ✓ Brian Hawksford, CM Rasmussen
- ✓ Robert Beiser, J Connect (Robert@hilleluw.org)
- ✓ Patrick Neville, King County Labor Council
- ✓ Patricia Lee, Central Council Staff
- Sara King, Intern, Washington Fair Trade Coalition
- Jacque Larrainzar, Office of Civil Rights
- Dan Eder, Central Council Staff
- Masha Burina, Seattle Women's Commission
- Morgan Currier, Student Labor Action Project
- Candace Inagi, Office of the Mayor
- Lisa Herbold, CM Licata

Agenda:

- Labor Agreements
- Monitoring Structure
- Funding

Notes

- ✓ Labor: May 5 meeting with Coalition of City unions was positive. Kristen Beifus attended. Kristen will circulate policy draft to them for any comment or input.
- ✓ Discussed how to approach determination of eligible products for employees to buy in negotiated agreements. Perhaps use a certified list? Who would keep list/resource issue?
- ✓ Police Guild union negotiations are underway
- ✓ Priority is to first get the procurement policy in place, then discuss ways to negotiate into labor agreements over time
- ✓ Table the discussion until the policy is complete, and provide general assurance in the SLI response that we will be working on this question in the coming 6 months,
- ✓ Monitoring: this would be necessary in order to add other compliance and enforcement provisions to the policy. Policy is designed in this original version to make a statement, but realistically (pragmatically) cannot do any significant enforcement given that there is no national infrastructure for monitoring. No in-house expertise for complaint resolution.
- ✓ Monitoring costs: It is intended by Sweatfree to be considered an annual fee, commonly at \$50k.
- ✓ Maine collects through a vending fee.

- ✓ Los Angeles pays \$50k a year to the “Workers Rights Consortium” who does specialized reports for LA, although is not interested in performing this for all cities and instead refers cities to the Sweatfree Consortium as the long-term monitoring solution
- ✓ San Francisco pays \$50k to Sweatfree directly. We are verifying exactly what the 50\$k is for.
- ✓ Portland paid a one-time fee of \$20k to Sweatfree that represented 1% of their uniform contract value. Did not have a specific deliverable tied to that payment. Did it only once.
- ✓ Workers Rights Consortium is monitoring for slightly different standards. They do specific contract monitoring.
- ✓ International Labor Rights Forum
- ✓ Options (1) proportional fee on all uniform contracts
 - Pure Uniform textiles contracts are about \$291,000, with 2 vendors (not including rental, body armor, or boots etc) \$50,000 would require a 20% surcharge on contract purchases.
 - City pay \$12,500 and vendor pays \$12,500 – a 10% surcharge for uniform textiles.
 - No payment
 - City pays full cost from general fund
- ✓ Options for legislative action
 - Outline ordinance, which would be appropriate if City wishes to do cost preferences, debarment, sanctions
 - Resolution if a policy statement
 - Policy – probably recommended approach, given the need for experience to get a workable policy – San Francisco experience reinforces that, with 2 ordinance changes in the past 5 years.
- ✓ Council staff will identify which Council member may wish to sponsor the briefing

Next meeting dates (Seattle Muni Tower, 41st Floor)

- ✓ None scheduled
- ✓ Policy and Code of Conduct will be reviewed by Law, edited and then updated policy draft and Code of Conduct will be circulated once complete, by May 21