

Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission

December 2, 2014 (6:00-8:00 PM)

Offsite

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Simon Khin, Shree Ram Dahal, Tsegaba Woldehaimanot, Dori Cahn, Mindy Au, Riddhi Mukhopadhyay, Jeniffer Calleja, Farhiya Mohamed, Susana Mercado Alvarado

Commissioners Absent: Michael Neguse, Michele Ramirez, Roxana Norouzi, Kianoush Naficy, Mohamed Adan, Veasna Adrian Hoy

OIRA Staff Present: Sahar Fathi

Call to Order: 6:30 pm

Welcome (Co-Chairs)-

Shree and Jen opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the last meeting of the year. Jen made a motion to approve the November minutes and Shree seconded. All were in favor.

Subcommittee Updates (All)-

The Immigration subcommittee reported back on the exciting news around Administrative relief. They are planning a field trip to the Detention Center and are also thinking about writing a joint oped on the unaccompanied minors. They have been collaborating with the Women's Commission.

The Economic Justice subcommittee noted that they added affordable housing to their work plan and that they have met with the Mayor's Office's new intern around challenges with the Super Subcommittee on Homelessness. There was discussion about the Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA) and the conversations around Seattle around affordability. There were also discussions in the International District about Nickelsville.

The Executive subcommittee discussed the letter addressing the Comprehensive Plan, to be submitted by the Five Commissions and the Planning Commission. There was discussion around the SLI for commission effectiveness and general conversation about the desire to see more City data accessible to the public.

Director's Report (Sahar) -

Sahar reported on this – she discussed the RFQ for Ready to Work and briefly touched on Administrative Relief.

Icebreaker (All)-

Jen conducted an ice breaker for the group.

Emerging Issues and Trends in the Community (All) (Executive Session)

The Commissioners went into executive session for this portion of the meeting.

Adjourn

8:10 pm.