



**Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission
August 7th, 2012, 6:00-8:00 PM
City Hall, Boards and Commissions Room-L280**

Meeting Minutes

- Commissioners Present:** Jesus Rodriguez, Devon Abdallah, Andrea Caupain, Shree Ram Dahal, Tsegaba Woldehaimanot, Michael Neguse, Magdaleno Rose-Avila
- Commissioners Absent:** Cherry Cayabyab, Bincy Jacob, Mohamed Sheikh Hassan, Ashraf Alazadi
- Commissioners by Phone:** None
- SOCR Staff Present:** None
- Guests:** Yemane Gebremichael, SPD Assistant Police Chief Mike Sanford
- Call to Order:** Call to order at 6:00 PM

OIRA Report - *Magdaleno Rose-Avila*

Leno gave an update on the work of the OIRA. Leno reports that he has been looking into other cities with OIRA projects to collaborate with. The new office is also currently working on finding people to work on the Safe Communities project and set up community meetings. Leno was getting ready to leave and attend block parties tonight to talk about Safe Communities. The new office is also working on visiting police precincts. Leno reported that he will meet with the Mayor on 08/17/12 to have a briefing on the Dream Act. The position for Policy Analyst has been filled, Jasmeet (Jina) Krause-Vilmar has been hired and will join the office on 09/04/12. The Sikh Community Shooting was also discussed, the vigil will be held on Saturday 08/11/12 in Renton at 7:30pm.

Presentation - SPD 20/20: A Vision for the Future- *SPD Assistant Police Chief Mike Sanford*

This presentation addressed the SPD 20/20 plan which includes a comprehensive package of 20 new initiatives to be completed over a period of 20 months. Assistant Police Chief Sanford discussed the various initiatives involved in the 20/20 plan. Sanford talked about the importance of teaching Seattle's history as one mechanism to teach officers about the demographics of the city. Sanford explained that 20/20 wants to give context to diversity and cultural competency training and that every officer will have these trainings. Sanford reports that both SPD and community have a responsibility to improve communications. Various commissioners had questions regarding the 20/20 plan. Sanford addressed the concerns and questions of the commissioners. In regards to screening for racist police officers, Sanford discussed the importance of having a holistic approach when recruiting for police officers. Sanford also discussed a zero tolerance for racist comments and violations by police and that SPD needs to work on

developing a peer accountability culture. Commissioners commented on the importance of getting the input of immigrant and refugee communities. Sanford reports that there will be a meeting held in October to get the input of anyone who's interested. Sanford says he will reach out to the commission during the first of the year to give further updates on the 20/20 plan.

Motion: July minutes approved (you might want to include the motion and second)

2012 Retreat

Devon inquired about possible dates for the 2012 I&R Commission Retreat. Possible dates for October 20th or 21st were given. Devon will send an email asking commissioners to choose the date that works best for them. Andrea agrees to take the lead in planning for the retreat. Devon reports that 50% of the commissioners' term will end in January 2013 and that the commission will need to recruit more commissioners for the next term. The commission will also be losing one Co-Chair and is looking for commissioners to apply for this position.

Workplan

Devon discussed the Housing item on the workplan and suggested not having enough time to focus on this item. Pradeepta and Michael were the leads on this item. Jesus moved to cut this item from the workplan and postpone until next year, Tsegaba seconded this motion and the motion was passed to cut Housing from this year's workplan and postpone it for the next year.

Devon reports that there are a few commissioners who are no longer on a workplan committee. Jesus and Mohamed have been moved to the Creating Protocols committee. Michael and Cherry are now on the Tracking and Responding to Key Issues committee.

Committee Report Backs

Creating Protocols

Ground rules are being developed. Sent letter in support of the Seattle World School.

Tracking & Responding to Key issues that affect the Immigrant and Refugee Communities

Working on setting up a meeting with Leno about collaborating with the new office and setting up a system for tracking and responding to key issues.

Elevate visibility of Immigrant and Refugee Commission

Will follow-up with Cherry regarding the Commission's List of Accomplishments.

Police Accountability

Jesus is continuing the commission work with SPD and the 20/20 plan

New Commissioners

Jesus reports that 2 candidates for the commission were approved: Mariya Kochubey who will be a youth representative and Nhi Tran representing the Vietnamese (Asian) community. Devon suggests we re-advertise for commissioner positions until the end of September.

Announcements

5 commission meeting will take place tomorrow at SOCR at 5:30pm

Yemane is working with a parent group to encourage civic engagement. He would like the commission to write a letter to the Department of Neighborhoods to support and give funding to community organizations to provide trainings regarding civic engagement and voter registration. A motion was made for the commission to write a letter in support of this, all were in favor. Shree offered to draft a letter in support of this.

Andrea will send a group email of the name change for CAMP. CAMP will now be called Center Stone.

A motion was made to move next month's meeting to the following Tuesday 09/11/2012 due to people being out because of the long holiday weekend.

The Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM