

Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission Meeting Minutes November 12, 2024 (6:00-8:00 pm)

Commissioners Present: Heather Yang-Hwalek, Emmanuel G.V. Dolo, Urjeet Deshmukh

Commissioners Absent: Anand Rao, Afra Mahmood, Gul Siddiqi

Staff Present: Beleqsa Tamaami

Guests: Kush Doshi, Norbelle Suazo

Call to Order: 6:10 pm

Welcome – Emmanuel came in-person and opened the meeting, welcomed attendees and guests, and invited attendees to check in.

Vote: Approval of October Minutes

- October meeting minutes were approved but will need to be voted on again because there wasn't quorum

OIRA Report

- Beleqsa reported on OIRA's activities in the previous month and upcoming community events in which OIRA plans to have a presence.
- Commissioners had follow-up questions regarding collaboration between OIRA and the Commission and expressed interest in writing a letter to the OIRA Office outlining their requests

Commissioner Recruitment and Outreach

- Emmanuel led a conversation discussing how to recruit and keep more Commissioners engaged
- Commissioners suggested a holiday potluck for December's Commission Meeting

Member Engagement Committee Check-in and Personal Development Activity

- Commission participated in a discussion led by the Member Engagement Committee considering recent national events
- Commission discussed areas of priority and community concerns

Adjourn

- The commission adjourned at 7:45 pm.