



City of Seattle



## Meeting Minutes

Sept 16, 2021 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via WebEx

**Commissioners Present:** Victor Loo, Jessi Murray, Chris Brown, Byram Simpson, Nate Higby, Brett Pepowski, Raja Fouad, Diondra Braswell, Andrew Ashiofu, Manuel Venegas, Steven Pray, Latosha Correll

**Commissioners Absent:** DeAunte Damper

**SOCR Staff:** Janet Stafford, Leo Segovia, Meredith Stone

**Meeting Minutes recorded by:** Janet Stafford

**Guests:** Lex Jakusovszky

### Welcome and Introductions

**Public Open Comment** – no comment

### Approve August Minutes and Sept Agenda

1. Aug 2021 minutes reviewed and approved with below edits. **Motion passes**
2. Approve Sept agenda with below edits. **Motion passes**
  - a. Edit DeAunte lead to Victor
  - b. Add Trans Budget update after to OCR Report

### Annual Retreat Update

1. Chris: Retreat date on December 11<sup>th</sup> from 10a-3pm
  - a. Commissioners should have access to annual planning doc with information from previous years, agenda drafted, facilitator info, bylaws, onboarding docs, commission handbook and retention information
  - b. List of facilitators were contacted and narrowed down by those who were interested. Will be following up with those individuals for final selection.
  - c. Commissioners will have prework to prep prior to retreat; review bylaws, commissioner handbook, onboarding docs
  - d. Further discussion on compiled feedback, onboarding, and resignations – discuss outreach and retention
  - e. Annual retreat planning will turn to co-chairs at end of Oct as Chris and Manuel will end their terms with the commission
  - f. Send feedback on types of items to include on retreat to incorporate into docs
  - g. Will connect with Janet for further updates. OCR to facilitate payment of facilitator
2. Jessi: Meeting is considered a special meeting and does not count towards normal attendance but encourage commissioners to join

## Committee Reports

1. POC: no update
2. Comm Ops
  - a. Attendance policy reminder - Attendance sheet is updated
    1. 4-absences call for automatic dismissal from commission
    2. Other options consist of temp leave of absence
    3. Visit bylaws for more info
  - b. Overview of Retreat – Top line ideas received
    1. Life after the commission, new administration and having the Mayor’s office possibly attend, 2022 and beyond priorities, Council member priorities, grounding exercises, recruitment, onboarding, retention, exiting, parliamentary procedures, Robert’s rules
    2. Jessi: send in thoughts you’d like to discuss to Chris or co-chairs
3. Community Engagement: no meeting, no updates
4. Social media: Communication on podcast, send in your ideas for October
  - a. Victor: send in your stories, they are powerful

## SOCR Report

1. Janet: Recruitment & Interviewing
  - a. Roster: 14 current commissioners, followed by 11 commissioners by end of year
  - b. Follow up with Janet if interested in joining recruitment subcommittee
2. Steven Pray’s term is ending and seeking reappointment
  - a. Motion to reappoint Steven Pray - **Unanimous consent - Motion passes**
3. 5-chair Candidate forum – HRC is seeking a commission who can take the lead on upcoming candidate forum. Coordinate with HRC on next steps.
4. SPR Strategic Listening Session – request to present at the upcoming LGBTQC meeting, 45-60 min
  - a. Jessi: Organize a separate committee meeting for those interested in participating
5. Meredith Stone: Office hours open on Wednesdays during lunch; open to questions, discussion, comments – or coordinate other times if needed
6. SIT meeting scheduled – Meredith and Mariko will be meeting with SIT to follow up on city emails for commissioners
7. Leo: TEEP update – LGBTQC committee met and submitted a 3 million budget proposal to the Mayor’s office, concerns regarding short timeline since the MO had transmitted budgets for all departments. The MO will submit proposal to CBO and will coordinate a follow up meeting with committee for further conversation.
  - a. Chris: Budget overview – 4 top line items include: 1. Roughly \$180,000 for contract 2. Money held until next year to double or more 3. Increase funding for legal services, health care, access and employment services 4. Gender justice project provide oversight of RFP process
  - b. Janet: Suggestion on next steps, connect with Councilmembers and set meetings – commission in agreement.

## Statement for Support for Continued Remote Testimony

1. Jessi – discussion and vote regarding statement to support continued remote testimony – email previously sent and signed by the SWC
  - a. Statement supports remote testimony using a hybrid model to ensure equal access to the legislative process and prioritize direct lived experience of in equity and ingest in justice. So

essentially both in person and remote testimony would have equal time. Streamline access and clearly post where to request accommodations. Expand financial support for the nonprofit TV network to increase accessibility. Open to discussion, question, comments.

b. Motion to sign on to statement letter in Support for Continued Remote Testimony -

**Unanimous consent - Motion passes**

2. 2<sup>nd</sup> ask – Advocate for similar measures at the city level
  - a. Chris - recommend to folks on boards and commissions and city council meetings to have greater accessibility. Give guidance vs signing onto something
  - b. Jessi – to follow on what guidance would look like, advocacy, ect.

**Announcement & Reminders**

1. Annabelle Backman stepping down and has been provided an option to also take a 4-month leave of absence – will wait to hear back
2. Byram Simpsons – moving out of town, stepping down, attending last commission meeting
3. DeAunte Damper has resigned from the commission – last meeting to be in October
  - a. DeAunte serves as a current co-chair.
  - b. Nominations for interim co-chair will proceed next commission meeting. Submit your name if interested.
4. Andrew will send info on WA State Eligibility Commission for those interested
5. Next meeting scheduled for Oct 21, 2021

**(END 7:52 pm )**