COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION (CIC)

February 28, 2022

6:30 – 7:30 pm

Zoom Meeting

**Commissioners present:** Carol Redfield (she/her), Martha Lucas (she/her), Jasmine Aryana (she/her), Bill Southern (he/him)

**Commissioners not in attendance:** None

**City of Seattle Staff present**: Alvin Edwards (DON, he/him), Laura Jenkins (DON, she/her)

***(Transcriber’s Note: The notes shown below are summaries of statements provided. They are not transcriptions and have been shortened and edited to include the major points raised. Full comments are retained in the files in voice recording and available upon request.***

# Public Comment

No public comment.

# Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The November 2021 Community Involvement Commission meeting minutes were approved by a quorum of commissioners.

# Updates from Commission Staff Liaisons

Welcome to new Co-Staff Liaison Alvin Edwards. Alvin introduced himself and said he has been a Community Engagement Coordinator for nearly two years.

Bill Southern, Commissioner, introduced himself. Carol Redfield, Commissioner, introduced herself. Martha Lucas, Commissioner, introduced herself. Jasmine Aryana, Commissioner, introduced herself.

Appointments

* With new administration and shift in Council responsibilities the Commission is in a waiting period. There are several appointments waiting to go through the process for sign off by the Mayor’s Office. There are six appointment packets going to the Mayor’s Office for sign off and then to the Council to be voted on. There is one that will go through Council’s process only because it is a District-based appointee.
* Discussion ensued regarding the long wait times (one potential Commissioner waited for over a year and so dropped out) and the desire to have timelines so everyone knows when people will come on board and there was more discussion about the two-year term and that other Commissioners were asked to leave after a year. Because of COVID some Commissioners felt they weren’t able to work as CIC Commissioners.

Seattle Department of Neighborhoods has a new Interim Director Greg Wong

* Mayor Bruce Harrell Announces New Leadership at Offices of Sustainability and Environment, Economic Development, and Department of Neighborhoods: <https://harrell.seattle.gov/2022/02/01/mayor-bruce-harrell-announces-new-leadership-at-offices-of-sustainability-and-environment-economic-development-and-department-of-neighborhoods/>

# Discussion and Vote on Postponing Community Involvement Commission Meetings until Additional Commissioners are Appointed

* Discussion about having the retreat when the Commission has all of its members. The Commissioners will plan the retreat as they wait for the new Commissioners to be appointed. Using the March meeting to determine their goals and workplan for 2022.
* How are the different districts getting feedback as the CIC wasn’t meant to take the place of the Neighborhood District Councils. Some Commissioners would like to meet with the Neighborhood councils to learn what’s happening in their neighborhoods; a planning charette.
* Discussion about having the Mayor attend – could get his take on the work of the Commission and perhaps get the Mayor’s input about this year’s work plan.
* Discussion about why there are now two people staffing the Commission. It was suggested that interns could be used to help with the workload.

# New Commissioner Onboarding Handbook Discussion

Commissioners decided this topic will be discussed at a future meeting.

# Public Comment

* Staff of CIC were invited to meet with Neighborhood District Councils but there have been very little in the way of meeting with the Neighborhood District Councils and they want to see if there is a way to have the CIC directly involved with the communities. There was a perception of the Commission as the Community Un-Involvement Commission.
* A question arose about the communications flow: do the Commissioners go to meetings to meet with Neighborhood Councils even though it might violate the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA).
* Talk about in-person meetings which require a hybrid meeting; some online and some in person.

# Adjournment

Co-Staff Liaisons will follow up on the topics discussed. The meeting was adjourned.