SEATTLE RENTERS' COMMISSION (SRC) MINUTES

July 10, 2024 6:15-7:45 PM Webex, online

Purpose: The Seattle Renters' Commission (SRC) was established to represent the interest of renters located in Seattle, to advise and make recommendations to the Mayor and City Council on public policy matters of importance to renters citywide.

Commissioners in attendance: Kate Rubin and Lydia Felty

Commissioners not in attendance: Dan Godfrey, Julissa Sanchez, and Atif Osami

Staff: Lydia Faitalia

Quorum: No

Public Comment: None

(Transcriber's Note: Seattle Renters' Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript and represent key points and the basis of discussion. The recording of the minutes is available upon request.)

Welcome

The Seattle Renters' Commission met on July 10, 2024, to discuss social housing updates, review their work plan, and plan future actions regarding City Council engagement.

Land and Labor Acknowledgement

The meeting opened with a land and labor acknowledgment.

Social Housing Public Development Authority (PDA) Update

The Commission reviewed the status of the Social Housing PDA. Updates included progress on recent initiatives and discussions about future advocacy efforts to support the PDA's mission.

Seattle Renter's Commission Work Plan review and group discussion

Commissioners conducted a detailed review of the current work plan, emphasizing the need for greater collaboration with the City Council and other commissions. Key focus areas included strategies for accelerating the appointment process for new commissioners and enhancing the effectiveness of the Commission's advocacy efforts.

City Council updates

Staff provided updates on ongoing efforts to engage with City Council members and their staff. Plans were discussed for future presentations to the Commission by council members to improve understanding of legislative initiatives affecting renters.

Public Comment

No public comments were provided during this meeting.

Key Decisions and Future Actions

- **Commission Appointments:** A letter will be sent to City Council urging prompt action on filling current vacancies within the Commission.
- Advocacy for Progressive Revenue: The Commission discussed the potential for advocating for progressive revenue measures to enhance funding for mental health services, nonprofit housing, and eviction defense.
- **Budget Priorities:** Preparations are underway to align the Commission's priorities ahead of the mayor's budget release in September. This will include developing a strategy to advocate for key issues.

Next Steps

- Staff will clarify procedures for engaging with other commissions and report back to the Commission.
- A poll will be conducted to determine the feasibility of an additional meeting later this month, based on members' availability.
- Continued coordination with the Mayor's Office and City Budget Office to arrange a budget briefing for the Commission.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

Next Meeting: To be scheduled based on availability and quorum