



Seattle Film Commission

Meeting Minutes– Monday, August 25, 2025, 10:00AM – 12:00PM

M5 Creative and Virtual

Commissioners Present: Lowell Deo, Champ Ensminger, Tom Florino, Mark Freid, KD Hall, LexScope, Davis Powell, Anthony Tackett, Budi Mulyo

Commissioners Absent: Michael Huang, Kat Ogden

Chair and Vice Chair Delegates to Champ Ensminger to Chair meeting in their absence

Staffed by Office of Economic Development: Chris Swenson

Members of the public may attend virtually or in person. In-Person Public Comment: Register to speak on the Public Comment sign-up sheet located inside Boards and Commissions Room. Speakers must be registered in order to be recognized by the Chair. Submit written comments to Seattle Film Commission: SeattleFilmCommission@Seattle.gov

AGENDA

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Land Acknowledgement
4. Public Comment
5. General Order of Business
 - a. OED
 - i. Commercial Film Attraction & Retention Initiative
 1. Prod Co and Agency meeting highlights
 - a. Question about post production applicability to commercial incentive program
 - b. Question about lowering the min spend threshold (currently \$150K) for commercial incentive program
 - c. Question about ability to submit application after production (currently you must apply before filming) for commercial incentive program
 - ii. Federal impacts information request
 1. Detained IATSE member was released
 - b. Review of past commitments and events
 - i. July 11-13 – 48HFP
 1. Anthony gave review, OED’s Chris Swenson introduced 250+ filmmakers
 - c. Preview of upcoming commitments and events
 - i. August 26 – Scope Screenings
 1. Now at Langston
 - ii. August 29 – WIF
 - iii. September 15-18 – AFCI
 1. Kat Ogden attending
 - iv. September 19 – Local Sightings mixer
 1. SFC to host opening night Industry Mixer, details to come
 - v. Inside Scoop
 1. August 27 – Inside Scoop “Conversations with Filmmakers of the African Diaspora”
 2. September 24 – Lex



3. October 22 – Michael
4. November 19 – KD
5. December 10 or 17 - Davis
- d. Committee and workgroup updates
 - i. Economic and Workforce Development (Tom Florino)
 1. SB 5814 advertising tax
 - a. Continue to hear concern from agencies and production companies
 - b. Legislature has ability to push the original starting date of 10/1
 - c. Asked by Amy to help with WF efforts to fundraise by connecting/reaching out to larger corporations
 - i. Budi: Can we ask for an assessment of where the B&O taxes are coming from state-wide? If it's mostly from Seattle, should they have a Seattle prioritization
 - ii. Policy (Mark Fried)
 1. SPD staffing & stipends
 - iii. Marketing, Branding and Initiatives (Champ Ensminger)
 1. Reminder of templates for posts
 2. Reminder to send events to Slack to make sure they can be amplified
 3. Budi: Can we assign budget to amplify things
 - a. Champ: Can be \$50-\$100 per post, can be scaled based on what you want to do with it; can put together a one-sheet for options to share with SFC
 - b. Mark: Discourages putting money into it, more of a boots on the ground effort
 - c. Anthony: Converge media is willing to amplify what we're doing, currently amplified 8/27 Inside Scoop
- e. Committee re-org proposal
 - i. Public Policy (new)
 1. Include econ dev
 2. Policy recommendations/review
 - ii. Workforce & Professional Development
 1. Engaging with crew base
 2. Offering professional development (inside scoop, FCT, etc)
 - iii. Branding & Marketing (no changes)
 - iv. Moved to adopt, seconded, open for discussion
 1. Mark: Restructure is good, and also helps commissioners focus their committee work
 2. Davis: Makes sense to move ED and Policy together, example is SB 5814; WD and Professional Dev is a pathway that needs to be a continuum
 3. Budi: How can policies help Seattle's independent community; Champ: Change development
 4. Champ: Will require consideration of new chairs for each
 5. Anthony: Consider co-chairs
 6. KD: Offers to lead marketing and branding, 20 year vet of this, do workforce development as teacher and still learning this work
 - v. Move to continue conversation at 2025 retreat
- f. SPD staffing & stipends
- g. SFC Retreat planning
 - i. Important to have everyone present



- ii. Update committees,
latest commissioners to be onboarded
 - iii. Agenda
 - 1. Committee re-org
 - 2. Commercial attraction leverage
 - 3. Budget
 - 4. M5 continuation
 - 5. Marketing opportunities
 - 6. Presentations
 - a. Micro content filmmaking?
 - iv. To do's
 - 1. OED offers agenda items for feedback on Slack
 - 2. OED sends date options of Mon 10/13 through Tue 10/21
- 6. Adjourn