



Seattle Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 5, at 6:00 p.m.

Hosted online on Zoom and in person at Seattle City Hall, 600 4th Ave, Board and Commissions Room #L280.

Call to Order at 6:04 p.m.

Roll Call

- Present:
 - Commissioners Bailey, Leydon, Catsambas, McCullough, Hultgren, Monson, Gonser, Tibbs, Lewis, Koss, Quander
 - Guests: Queen Adams
- City of Seattle OCR Staff
 - Present: Sebastian Wilson, Meredith Stone

Land & Labor Acknowledgement

“We are currently occupying the unceded lands of many First Peoples, Coast Salish people, Muckleshoot, Suquamish, Stillaguamish, and Duwamish. We acknowledge and thank local First Nations for their centuries of land stewardship that long predates the arrival of European settlers. We remind you to be aware of the spaces you occupy locally, that these lands were stolen from First People in the name of white settler colonialism and that you seek ways to continue your education and give back to local Indigenous communities.” From Duwamish Tribe’s website

“We must acknowledge that much of what we know of this country today, including its culture, economic growth, and development throughout history and across time, has been made possible by the labor of enslaved Africans and their descendants who suffered the horror of the transatlantic trafficking of their people, chattel slavery, and Jim Crow. We are indebted to their labor and their sacrifice, and we must acknowledge the tremors of that violence throughout the generations and the resulting impact that can still be felt and witnessed today.” By Dr. Terah “TJ” Stewart

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Commissioner **Leydon** Motioned to approve the minutes from January meeting, seconded by Commissioner **Bailey**
- January 10, 2026, meeting minutes approved unanimously

Public Comment

None

Items of Business.

1. Officer Elections:
 - a. Chair **McCullough** motioned to table the election of Communications chair until the following meeting, seconded by **Koss**.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously
 - b. Chair **McCullough** motioned to self-nominate as Policy Chair, **Bailey** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously.
2. SHRC Strategic Planning:
 - a. Housing task force- **Lewis** moved to carry forward Housing task force for 2026, **Bailey** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously.
 - b. Housing task force chair- **Lewis** motioned to approve Bailey as lead, Chair **McCullough** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously
 - c. Human Trafficking Task Force- **Koss** moved to carry Human Trafficking Task Force forward in 2026, **Lewis** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously
 - d. Chair **McCullough** moved **Koss** to be lead of Human Trafficking Task Force, **Bailey** seconded.
 - i. Motion Approved unanimously.
 - e. **Quander** moved to carry Criminal Task Force forward in 2026, **Leydon** seconded.
 - i. Motion Approved unanimously.
 - f. **Quander** moved to self-nominate as lead of the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force, **Catsambas** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously.
 - g. **Tibbs** moved to create a Government Affairs lead **Bailey** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously.
 - h. **Lewis** moved to self-nominate as Government Affairs lead, **Leydon** seconded.
 - i. Motion approved unanimously.

Committee/Task Force Reports

1. Executive - Commissioner McCullough reported:
 - a. 7 vacancies on commission
 - b. OCR staff to provide recruitment updates and collateral for commissioners to share.
 - c. Requested a standing group for interviews: Bailey, Leydon, Gonser, Tibbs, Catsambas, and Koss volunteered.
2. Appeals - Commissioner Leydon
 - a. 41% of spots are full for 2026.
 - b. OCR had a conversation with Chair Leydon to identify issues with submitted work the commission is reviewing.
3. Events- Commissioner Quander reported:
 - a. The Events Committee had their first meeting of the year and invited others to join the committee.
4. Criminal Justice Reform Task Force- Commissioner Quander:
 - a. reported the first meeting would be next week and invited others to join.
5. Housing & Unhoused Task Force-Commissioner Bailey:
 - a. Held first meeting of the year and invited others to join.
 - b. Developing plan for 2026
6. Human Trafficking Task Force
 - a. Commissioner Koss will email members to establish meeting time and date.

Seattle Office for Civil Rights Updates

Sebastian Wilson, OCR, thanked everyone for attending Legislative Process 101 workshop and encouraged members to attend upcoming workshops. Meredith is working on a presentation to Council on OCR commissions.

Next Regular Meeting

March 5, 2026

Adjourned 8:01 p.m.

Tibbs motioned to adjourn, **McCullough** seconded. Motion carried.