

Minutes
Monday, June 21, 2021, 5:30-7:30p
Seattle Women's Commission Meeting

Commissioners in attendance: Sophia Lee, Jema Turk, Jamilah Williams, Darya Farivar, Rebecca Bryant, Abriel Johnny, Whitney Nakamura, Ophelia Parker, Jennifer Gordon, Kyla Evans, and K, Min Pease

Commissioners Absent: Tana Yasu, Zoe True, Vinati Mamidala, Rhonda Carter, Jennifer Gordon, Diya Khanna, Morgan Cain, Rachel Morowitz, Chelise Jacobson,

Time	Topic	Lead
5:30	Welcome/Ice Breaker/Introductions Minutes for May Minutes for May motion and seconded minutes approved	S. Lee
5:45	Guest Speaker Kyanna Wheeler, Seattle Office for Civil Rights shares the follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ways that RSJI can support the commission. • Meet you all where you need her. Her work comes from internal groups, like directing the executive and telling them what they should do. • Would like to collaborative with the Commission. • Would like to work with Commission to put together language and how she can help. • Elevate Commission internally • Externally -communications 	S. Lee

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore ways to collaborate. 	
6:15	<p>Read-out and Lessons Learned from the Renters Rights Forum update by Rebecca.</p> <p>Rebecca gives an update on the Renters' Rights Forum with the 5-Commissions. It was a successful event and great collaboration with the 5-Commissions who planned the event.</p> <p>Seattle extended the eviction moratorium to the end of September.</p>	R. Bryant
6:25	<p>Candidates Forum Update.</p> <p>Sophia shares the updates and dates for the upcoming candidate forums in July.</p> <p>5-Commissions are planning 4 candidate forums, City Attorney, July 15, 2021, City Council, July 20 and July 22, 2021, City Council and July 29, 2021, Mayor. Let Co-Chairs know if you are interested in helping.</p>	S. Lee
6:35	<p>In-Person Gathering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rebecca discusses the idea of having everyone get together and meet in person and commissioners like the idea and she will work on putting that together. • Asks when we will be able to start back meeting in City Hall. • Marta shares that City Hall is open and because of the problems with the Boards and Commissions Room L-280 not having the ability to conduct virtual meetings, they wanted to know what could be done to have virtual meetings in another location. • Marta notes that she talked with Meredith Stone, Events Coordinator with Finance and Administrative Services about using Bertha Knight Landes room 	R. Bryant

	<p>for their meetings. She affirmed that it was ok. They also asked when they would be able to have public meetings again in city hall. The Commission will be able to start using the Bertha Knight Landes Room for meetings, but a decision has not been made by the state about when the public can return to public buildings, which is under the OPMA.</p>	
6:45	<p>Domestic Violence Prevention Council.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tana is the one who will be attending the quarterly meetings. 	T. Yasu
6:55	<p>Subcommittee Report Out, Sophia</p> <p>Subcommittee reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebecca wants to get 2-3 questions from commissioners to submit for the candidate forums and what they want to focus in on. <p>Back to subcommittee Reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications: Jamilah and Whitney share the following: Sorry about the bio confusion. They want commissioners to submit one so they can get them uploaded. The candidate's forum is being shared on social media: fb and twitter. Issues concerning pride: Take B(l)ack Pride asked white people to pay and help with reparations money to help pay for the event and entertainment. This has caused a lot of issues for the organizers along with threats from white supremacist groups. Discussion by the commission and some feel the commission should support what has 	S. Lee

	<p>already been done and sign on to the Seattle Human Rights Commissions’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • letter and support Trans Solidarity. Motion to sign on to the SHRC Letter and vote to support Take B(l)ack Pride and send it out on social media to promote the event and make it a safe gathering. • Rebecca makes a motion to sign on to the Seattle Human Rights Commissions’ letter and support Take Black Pride, no one abstained and unanimously passes. Communications committee will make a public statement on social media plus one on the SHRC letter and, also publicly support Take B(l)ack Pride on social media. • Policy and Advocacy Subcommittee: no report • Government, Communications. Policy Research met to determine their rolls. • Contact community groups, and ongoing projects. 	
7:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darya discusses the process of the nominations and that they are held each June and the vote is in July. Commissioners will nominate at this meeting and then vote on new Commissioners at the July meeting. Opened for nominations and Darya asks if there were anyone who would like to nominate someone. Elections will be in July. • 2-year terms maximum of 4 Co-Chairs. Meet once a month 5- co-chairs meetings (quarterly meetings) 5-10 hours a week. Transition back into the building and what that looks like. What is it like to be a Co-Chair and what it would mean to sign up for this role? • Sophia wants to make sure that the commission push forward things and 	D. Farivar

lead initiatives and make sure we push forward things and organizations we are working with. Making sure we are doing what we set out to do.

- Rebecca – I got to know Sophia, Darya, Tana every well. Making sure that things we express interest in happens. Exciting to bringing things back to the building. Pride as shown is that our voices matter. Use our voice for good as the world opens and we have a part in it. Summary: Opening nominations for next months meeting.
- Kyla nominates Rebecca and Rebecca accepts the nomination. Sophia accepts the nomination and Tana is also interested and Rebecca nominates Tana. Darya nominates Abriel as Co-Chair, Abriel accepts the nomination as well. Vote will be taken at the next meeting.
- Darya announces that July’s meeting will be her last meeting.
- Sophia says that “we need to talk about racism that is going on in our city” and how the police address it. What kind of change would they like to see around racism? This should be on their radar in one form or another.
- A potential question from Kyla about how the candidates reflect intersectionality in their work.
- A question is asked on what commissioner’s think the top 2-3 issues are going on in Seattle.
- Other potential questions are around childcare for parents who are going back to work will need to re-establish childcare and Abriel adds tribal sovereignty. Rebecca will share at the next meeting after this meeting.
- Kyanna asks about if there are themes or issues that come up for folks.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are their thoughts on MMIW? • Frame of reference; where is your personal beliefs, leadership and hope you think about the power you hold. Anti-racist principle's and are there triggers? • Themes or principles you have within your work. • We are addressing current issues and not themes and principles – Sophia. • Could not meet and talk to people when Covid-19 hit. All our values line up with our beliefs. _Sophia • It was discussed that the commission focus on current issues and how equity, community and power dynamics contribute to underlying bias we hold. Our actions do show where our values lie. Kyanna shares that it would be helpful if those were more explicit and discussed. • Retreat was discussed regarding activity in community and work norms. Workplan is outdated and we need to think about how we approach our work. 	
7:25	<p>SOCR Report Out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appointments/Re-appointments • July 20, 2021, 9:00a • Onboarding Documents • A lot of hiring is going on to fill vacant positions. • In June 2021, the City of Seattle placed the development of a request for proposal (RFP) for the Participatory Budgeting process into the Seattle Office for Civil Rights (SOCR). SOCR will not be distributing the funds for participatory budgeting but will be developing the RFP that will contract the agency to run the participatory 	M. Idowu

	<p>budgeting process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• https://www.seattle.gov/civilrights/participatory-budgeting	
7:30	adjourned	