

Seattle Women's Commission Minutes

Monday, August 18th, 2025, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. [Join the meeting virtually.](#)

Facilitators: E. Barr

Note taker & Land/Labor Acknowledgment: K. Guerrero

Attendance: K. Guerrero, E. Rose-Barr, J. Tran, S. Miles, S. Hitchcock, A. DeFisher, K. Wright, N. Evanoff, N. Tola, N. Goforth, T. Mills, H. Glover, W. Nakamura, N. Ghazanfari, E. Han, S. Styles

Guests: M. Idowu (SOCR); K. Burton (Senior Staff Attorney, Tenant Law Center, Catholic Community Services of Western Washington), M. Stone (SOCR)

Welcome

Land/Labor Acknowledgment

"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 the 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.

Introductions and Roll Call

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

- Approved July Minutes
 - Motion to approve: E. Rose-Barr
 - Second: E. Han
 - Aye: H. Glover, J. Tran, T. Mills, S. Hitchcock, K. Wright, K. Guerrero, N. Evanoff, A. DeFisher, N. Tola, W. Nakamura

- Approved August Agenda:
 - Motion to approve: E. Rose-Barr
 - Second: N. Evanoff
 - Aye: K. Guerrero, K. Wright, J. Tran, N. Evanoff, S. Hitchcock, A. DeFisher, T. Mills, H. Glover, N. Goforth

Public Comment

None.

Presentation by the Catholic Community Services of Western Washington

Tenant Law Center Eviction Prevention Legal Aid Presentation, which included:

- Overview of what TLC does.
- Reviewed how TLC helps in different tenancy and eviction situations. Highlights importance of tenants rights, especially for most vulnerable populations.
- Reviewed most common tenant issues including failure to repair, ledger disputes, refusal of "partial payments" and refusal to provide/sign documents (SOID - Source of income discrimination).
- Seattle has a very helpful organization to help with uncompleted repairs - SDCI (Seattle Department of Construction and Inspection).
- Paper trails/documentation are extremely important. Put it in writing!
- Reviewed the eviction process.
- [Washington Law Help](#) is a great resource base for WA law.
- Reviewed special Seattle protections - roommate ordinance, winter and school year eviction moratoria, late fee cap, TRAO/EDRA, local just cause protections, first in time.
- Shared an unfortunate growing trend that landlords are now relying on outside the right to counsel 200-year old statute (skirting the protections of ROTA).
- Answered questions from the Commission.
- How can SWC support? Recent changes with MSTEs, share resources, Affordable Housing Subcommittee. Kasey is on the Seattle Renters Commission and there is an opportunity for partnership with an upcoming testimony hearing. SWC can help advocate to reinstate funding for the 2026 budget.
- Kasey/Emily to share slide deck with SWC.

Subcommittee Updates

Reproductive Health

- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.
- [Mobile breast cancer screenings](#), potential event at City Hall.
- Working on pamphlets on breast cancer.

Gender-Based Violence

- The new meeting time is the 3rd Friday of the month 2-2:30pm.
- Aurora Commons volunteer timing. Urges commissioners to fill out a poll. Amanda to share a reminder.
- Vermillion Gallery is the location for the Art Show. Soft opening on October 2nd. Public opening on October 9th Capitol Hill Art Walk. Art show will run through the end of October. 7 artists confirmed.
- Art Show event opportunity.
- Women-owned/lead print shop.

Housing Access

- New volunteer from UW (Tyra).
- Working on updating the Workplan for 2026.
- AHMA (Affordable Housing Management Association) of Washington connection. More to come.

Communications

- New! Communications Folder - stay tuned for open access resources
- Look for calendar invite from Women's Commission Calendar. Please add sub-committee meetings. You'll see Communications as an example.
- Mariah reaching out of IG spotlights
- History of SWC work project
- Brand guidelines
- Website proposal in progress
- Update your workplan status for Sept please
- Sub-Committee Meetings: Find us at 6:30PM on 2nd Monday of month

Co-Chair Updates

- Recent and upcoming events
 - End of summer BBQ (8/24)
 - Emily to follow up with RSVP YES to determine food situation.
 - Exploring hybrid/potluck style.
 - [Festival Sundiata](#) (8/23 - 8/24)

- Event shared by Whit.
- [Pratt Open House & Jackson Street Jazz Walk \(9/6\)](#)
 - Event shared by Whit.
- Beacon Arts Street Fair (9/13) – [volunteers needed](#)
 - Tabling event 11am-6pm. 2 hour shifts.
- Budget Vote
 - Candidate Forum (10/9) Sponsorship - \$100
 - Budget / Commitment due asap
 - GBV Art Walk artist thank you gifts - \$ TBD
 - Commitment due end of Sept.
 - Comms budget request for survey fundings - \$80
 - \$40 for 2-month subscription
 - **By-law reminder:** MUST give notice before bringing budget use to a vote.
 - Comms subcommittee to send notice/request of budget needs.
 - Next step: Comms Committee will send notice 2-weeks ahead of September meeting with reminder / summary on vote
- Swag Updates
 - Stickers ordered.
 - Sweatshirts are here at City Hall
- New meeting guidelines
 - Did not discuss
- Mentor Pilot Program
 - Did not discuss

Seattle Office of Civil Rights Updates by M. Idowu

Oct 25th All OCR gathering. Recognition event and networking/collaboration opportunity.
No other updates.

Adjourned