



City of Seattle

Ed Murray, Mayor

Seattle Women's Commission

MINUTES

Seattle Women's Commission
Boards and Commissions Conference Room L280
600 Fourth Avenue, City Hall

Monday, June 20, 2016, 5:30 –7:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present: Michele Frix, Nicki Olivier Hellenkamp, Morgan Beach, Alison Mondì, Lylia Allala, Teresa Springer, Keisha Jackson, Jaron Goddard, Mergitu Argo, Idabelle Fosse, Alyson Palmer, Erica Soelling, Ruchika Tulshyan, Rokea Jones

Commissioners Absent/Excused/Leave: Tracey Whitten, Loida Erhard, Honey Jo Herman, Elsa Batres-Boni

Start time: 5:35 pm

Announcements

- Summer social event will be July 25 at 6 pm at Marination in West Seattle

Approval of minutes

- Minutes approved with no amendments.

SOCR Update

Y. Castorena

- Third quarter commissioner onboarding dates are available – new and existing commissioners can sign up.

5 Commissions joint letter in response to Orlando shootings

N. Hellenkamp

- Letter approved with edits.

Ethics and Elections

Wayne Barnette

- No taking a position or engaging in elections as a commissioner. Can take a position on Council bills, but not on initiatives once they have been sent to the ballot.

Seattle Protects Women

Abby Lawlor and Feliza Ryland

- Issues specific to hotel industry: sexual harassment, high rates of work-related pain, low rates of health insurance, no job security if hotel is sold

- 80% of hotel housekeepers are women, majority women in hotel employees overall
- Industry is growing, slated to grow an additional 30% in next 5 years
- SWC will follow up with Wayne about our ability to take a position on an initiative filed through citizen petition vs. the legislative route.

Market Share

Philip Deng

- Proposal to create permanent food stalls operated by low-income, immigrant/refugee entrepreneurs on the second floor of King St. Station.
- Commercial Affordability Advisory Committee to make recommendation in September, after which there will be an RFP process.
- Campaign ramping up. Requests to the Commission include letters of support to the Mayor, Council, and OED, as well as recommendation for \$10,000 in budget.
- Suggestion from Morgan: gender diversity requirement for participating entrepreneurs
- Special subcommittee formed to follow this project.

Sound Generations

Idabelle Fosse

- Formerly Senior Services, nonprofit organization (not governmental)
- Wide range of programs, including Meals-on-Wheels and 6 senior centers
- Recent budget cuts from the city and United Way
- Big policy issues impacting seniors: housing crisis (increase in homelessness among seniors, increase in economic instability related to housing), cost of transportation (reliance on volunteer transit/free shuttles)
- Number of informal caregivers (55% female) is growing, with ¼ households providing care for seniors or people with disabilities. Half of those households don't get any outside help, with the result that they have increased health/mental health needs

Harassment of female councilmembers event

M. Beach

- Plan is to do a forum and story slam
- Date target: 2nd or 3rd week in August

Election of Co-Chairs

All Commissioners

- Nicki, Teresa, and Morgan elected as co-chairs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING: Monday, July 18, 2016, 5:30 PM, Boards and Commissions Conference Room L280

FIVE COMMISSION MEETINGS:

5:30 PM, 810 Third Avenue, Suite 750, Seattle, WA.

- **August 10**
- **November 9**