

Seattle Disability Commission

Also known as; Commission for People with disAbilities

Special Meeting Notes

September 2, 2020 - 7:00pm

Zoom Conference Call

Commission Members Present:

- Via Zoom: Eric Scheir, Jayson Morris, ChrisTiana ObeySumner, Kristina Sawyckyj
- Excused Absence: Kaitlin Skilton (pending commissioner), Anquida Adams, Jessica Williams-Hall, Hannah Wilson, Khazm Kogita

OCR: Janet Stafford, Caedmon Cahill

Facilitators: Maralise Hood-Quan

Meeting Norms

- Reviewed

Seattle Human Rights Commission letter regarding the Mayors performance

Commissioner thoughts:

- Mixed feelings, need more research and facts, my decision might be branded for life, limited time restrain with not enough time to investigate facts
- Another option: write a personal letter
- Don't want my name on something inaccurate
- Use the SHRC letter and adapt to the Disability Commission

Facilitator:

- Considering the fact 3 other commissioners are not present how can we hear all the voices from the commission

OCR:

- OCR does not investigate systematic complaints rather individual discrimination complaints. LGBTQ Commission previously met under a Special Meeting on Mayor Durkan concerns.

Commissioner responses:

- HRC letter deadline is tomorrow, too quick to make decision, feels rushed
- Proposal: highlight concerns of racial issues and homelessness
- Definite no to signing SHRC letter, inaccuracy on homelessness, if evidence was provided than would be more open to discussion including recall elections

- Ready to vote, no concerns to share but notify today is Chief Best last day leaving Adrian Diaz as Interim Chief
- 24-hour notice for Special meeting is not enough notice – making this a set up and uncomfortable, wishing more time were given
- Review another resignation letter www.resigndurkan.com
- Consider our continuants, community, and level of movement
- We could design a new letter
- If we sign on we would be responsible for something inaccurate, where is fact checker for SHRC letter
- My concern is for us to do nothing and we have community asking for change

Steps and Closing

Options on moving forward: Commissioners came up with the following options and leaned towards option 4 as a next step for the September meeting to consider those commissioners unable to attend Special Meeting

1. Do not move forward with signing of the SHRC letter
2. Sign on to a separate letter for Mayor Durkan's resignation – more info at www.resigndurkan.com
3. Reach out to commissioners not present at the Special meeting and draft a new letter on behalf of the Disability Commission to share by the next Sept. 17 meeting
4. Bring this topic issue to the next Sept. 17 meeting for discussion and vote – initiate an ad hock committee to draft a new letter on behalf of the Disability Commission

Commissioner request for September's Commission meeting: Go to our continuants who are not in our normal network to ask how they feel about requesting Mayor Durkan's resignation. Find out what our continuants want and not what "I" want. Try to talk to 5 new people, break your echo chambers.

Appreciate transparency from all- speaking from heart as we all have different opinions.