

Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission

October 6, 2020 (6:00-8:00 PM)

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Maria Jimenez-Zepeda, Maya Appiah, Johnson Nguyen, N. Gina Aaftaab, Amanda Sandoval, Karina San Juan-Guyton, Emmanuel G. V. Dolo, Karen Gamez, Denisse Guerrero-Harvey, Shelani Vanniasinkam, Ilays Aden

Commissioners Absent: Farhiya Mohamed, Ankita Patel

Staff Present: José Manuel Vasquez, Sonny Nguyen

Guests: Karsyn Sudhadolnik, James Wells, Kimberly Horner, Loraine Ashcraft

Call to Order: 6:04 pm

Welcome (Co-Chairs) Maria and Gina opened the meeting.

Action Taken:

- September meeting minutes were approved.
- Agenda was modified to include invitation from Mayor's office.
- Approved \$300 budget for registration to Budget Matters 2020 Training on Nov 17th.
- Approved \$1,200 budget for leadership training by Nikita Oliver and Dr. Ahmed Ali.
- Rescheduled November meeting to November 10th.
- Rescheduled retreat to January, in lieu of January commission meeting.

Mayor's office conversation

- Mayor's office wants to invite 2-3 representatives from the IRC to attend a meeting/dialogue with Mayor Jenny Durkan on Friday 10/9.
- This is in response to the 5-Commission's letter sent out earlier in the year.

OIRA Report

- DACA Legal Clinic coming up 10/10.
- DACA Renewal Fee Scholarships available. More info can be found at seattle.gov/daca
- Seattle has launched the Seattle COVID-19 Disaster Relief Fund for immigrants have been excluded from federal pandemic relief.

Budget Conversation

- Reviewed budget proposals submitted by commissioners before meeting.
- Considering guest speakers and conferences to attend.

Retreat Discussion

- Discussed format, framework, and possible guest speakers for this year's retreat.

Adjourn

The commission adjourned and went into executive session at 8:05 pm