

Seattle Immigrant and Refugee Commission

November 4, 6:00-8:00 PM

City Hall, Room 370

Meeting Minutes

Commissioners Present: Michele Ramirez, Shree Ram Dahal, Tsegaba Woldehaimanot, Roxana Norouzi, Dori Cahn, Mindy Au, Riddhi Mukhopadhyay, Jeniffer Calleja, Kianoush Naficy, Mohamed Adan, Veasna Adrian Hoy

Commissioners Absent: Michael Neguse, Farhiya Mohamed, Simon Khin, Susana Mercado Alvarado

Guests: John Giamberso, Ian Devier, Molly Kindle, Shannon Gee

OIRA Staff Present: Cuc Vu, Sahar Fathi

Call to Order: 6:01 pm

Welcome (Co-Chairs)-

Shree opened with welcoming remarks. Michele moved the October minutes be passed and Mindy seconded. Unanimous votes in favor of approval.

Seattle Channel Presentation (John, Ian, Shannon)-

Seattle Channel showed a five minute presentation on the current programs on Seattle Channel. They discussed some past collaboration with the Immigrant and Refugee Commission and asked for input on their outreach campaign. They also wanted thoughts around ideas and approaches for community shows. The consultant has put together a 30 second branding under the theme of "It's Not What You Think."

The Commission asked whether the Channel was open to producing in a foreign language or doing programming around learning English. There were suggestions around programming for immigrant children and a show that highlights the gains of citizenships. There was a suggestion that if 20% of Seattle is foreign born, then an hour every day of programming should be set aside for people who come from different countries.

Director's Report (Cuc)-

Cuc spoke to the budget allocation put forth by Mayor Murray. She also spoke to the potential for an announcement on Administrative Relief and how she has been working with local community based organizations to come up with a communications plan in support of their work.

Work Plan Work time (All) (Executive Session) -

The Commission broke into subcommittees to continue work on their work plan.

Emerging Issues and Trends in the Community (All)-

The Immigration subcommittee discussed logistics for the deportation center tour. The commissioners discussed the rally that occurred in opposition to "Stepping Forward." The commission agreed that they would like a follow up letter to be written, to underscore what this policy means to the community.

Announcements (All):

The group discussed their options for the end of the year holiday meeting.

Adjourn

8:10 pm.