



City of Seattle

---

**Seattle**  
**LGBTQ Commission**



### **Meeting Minutes**

Aug 19, 2021 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via WebEx

**Commissioners Present:** Victor Loo, Chris Brown, Byram Simpson, Nate Higby, DeAunte Damper, Brett Pepowski, Raja Fouad, Diondra Braswell, Andrew Ashiofu, Manuel Venegas

**Commissioners Absent:** Jessi Murray, Annabelle Backman, Latosha Correll, Steven Pray

**SOCR Staff:** Janet Stafford, Leo Segovia

**Meeting Minutes recorded by:** Janet Stafford

**Guests:** Michael Lawrence

**Welcome and Introductions** – land acknowledgment

**Public Open Comment** – no comment

#### **Approve July Minutes and August Agenda**

1. July 2021 minutes reviewed and approved with below edits. **Motion passes**
2. Approve Aug agenda with below edits. **Motion passes**
  - a. Edit to say August agenda not July agenda
  - b. Edit to say July minutes not June minutes
  - c. Add Diondra to update on City Budget with Brett Pepowski

#### **City budget for trans community**

1. Diondra: Committee has met once and has sent dates to meet with the MO
2. Budget proposal drafted with the help of Leo and has been sent to the commission for review
2. Capacity: The commission might not have the capacity at this moment, other ideas to include:
  - a. Push back the timeline
  - b. Provide more time for other agencies, like AAOC to provide feedback to the commission
  - c. Align with AAOC Policy committee as the main lead and then provide commission support – meet with council members
3. Brett: Would be helpful to meet with the MO and how we could hold a collaborative relationship with AAOC, the MO and what that would entail
  - a. Follow up discussion set for Monday evening for commissioners – Brett to send invite

### Facilitator's budget for annual retreat

1. Chris: The annual retreat in some years included paid facilitators, unpaid facilitators, facilitators part of the commission or from OCR
2. Other ideas include reaching out to prior commissioners with no monetary contribution
3. Last year around \$1,000 was set aside for an outside facilitator that included 4-5 planning meetings leading up to the annual retreat and the retreat was split into 2 separate meetings
4. This year's retreat will be 1-day on Sat, Dec. 11 from 10a-3pm. TBD in person, hybrid or virtual and people's comfort level. Save the date has been sent by Janet
5. If an outside facilitator is hired, can we set a monetary budget for this service – open to discussion
  - a. This would include their service for the day of the retreat, 3-5 planning meetings leading up to the date, discuss if the annual planning sessions is productive in a way that is inclusive give the feedback from commissioners who have left the commission
6. Victor: Supports the idea of a similar setup to last year and to note this will be posted as a public event
7. Nate: Supports giving to an outside facilitator, especially to be successful in addressing concerns of those raised by Chris. As for the retreat, a lot of work goes into preparing these goals and sometimes these ideas get dropped or don't get revisited throughout the year
8. Chris: sounds there is an agreement to an external facilitator that has a bypass intersectionality background
  - a. Ask: is \$1,000 an appropriate amount – do we want more or less while being cautious of the language we use
  - b. Commission Budget clarification for newer commissioners– each year the commission is awarded \$2,000 with a large portion of that going to the annual retreat. Current balance to date is \$2,000 since there was no expenses towards public events this year
9. Janet: Reminder the \$2,000 needs to be allocated by December of each year, if not used any balance does not roll over
10. Motion to use up to \$1,000 towards a facilitator for the annual retreat with the requirements to include someone from the BIPOC community and carries intersectionality and facilitator skills. create a position of Treasurer to be monitor our finances, to be elected by the Commission. **Unanimous consent - Motion passes**
  - a. Will begin outreach, please submit suggestions/recommendations to be emailed to Chris to compile a list of facilitators

### Committee Reports

1. POC: no update
2. Social Media:
  - a. Send in information you'd like to see posted, or if you have ideas please post
  - b. Pridefest going on, face mask and safety protocol in place
3. Comm Ops
  - a. Attendance and policy surrounding attendance was addressed

- b. Commissioners needing reminders have been sent emails
- c. John Rodriguez is official removed from the commission
- d. Retreat: Dec. 11 from 10a-3pm
  - 1. potential hybrid/virtual event– details to follow as we get closer to the date
  - 2. Will need to work under OPMA requirements per breakout rooms
  - 3. Feedback from Aleksa was positive from last year and will be reaching out to former commissioners

**SOCR Report**

- 1. Commission division no longer under Policy team – temporary new supervisor is Meredith Stone
- 2. 5-Commission meeting included feedback on the candidate forums, interest to provide another series, upcoming robust trainings for commissioners
- 3. Commissioner updates: Ryan Bush has resigned
- 4. No current updates from the public records request

**Announcements, Reminders, & Roll Call**

- 1. Byram: next Sept meeting will be the last meeting due to moving out of Seattle
- 2. Next meeting scheduled for Sept. 16, 2021

**(END 7:16 pm )**