



City of Seattle

Seattle LGBTQ Commission



Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2022 | 6:30 – 8:30 p.m

Virtual Meeting via WebEx

Commissioners Present: Steven Pray, Nate Higby, Brett Pepowski, Raja Fouad, Jessi Murray, Victor Loo and Andrew Ashiofu

Commissioners Absent:

SOCR Staff: Marta Idowu

Meeting Minutes recorded by: Andrew Ashiofu

Guests: Lillian Williamson (Get Engage Commissioner – pending appointment), Alex Tang (Human Rights Commission) Erin (Interested member)

Welcome and Introductions

Introductions were done and we had 2 public guest Erin who is interested in joining the commission and Alex Tang from the Human Rights Commission

Public Open Comment

None

Approve Minutes and Agenda

- January minutes: no amendments for the January minutes. **Passed with unanimous consent**
- December 2021 retreat minutes: no amendments for the Dec retreat minutes. **Passed with unanimous consent.**
- Nate made an amendment to add a discussion on Pride and flag raising to the agenda. **The amendment was passed with Unanimous consent.**

Update on Recruitment

There are 4 potential candidate and a 5th interview on the 28th of Feb, After the 5th interview the committee will report back to Andrew and Jessi. Then recommendations via email to the commissioners.

Nate asked if they candidates are asked how they heard about the commission.
Victor said there are a total of 6 closed and 2 open ended questions, but no question. That most said they heard via social media and word of mouth.

Committee Reports

POC Committee: Raja is looking forward to start again.

Community Outreach and social media: Brett spoke about Onboarding the new city administration and asked for help. A document has been created which is accessible and a link will be sent out. The need for an offboarding process. Nate Wants to create and clean transition of handling access to social media and working with the disability commission.

CommOps: Andrew updated the commission on attendance and reminded that there is a reset on absence from meetings. The priority positions to fill with new members.

Nate brought up the topic of Pride and our participation. The commission has historically been involved with the parade and having a booth. The Pride events scheduled to be in person this year. Pride flag raising in partnership with City Hall.

Andrew Though there has been a change in the administration, there is still some hesitant in being aligned to the new administration, based on some policies.

Martha Gave historical context on how the commission has been part of the event and the involvement of community organizations, individuals, businesses, and media. Would send a link for the commission to fill for the Mayor to be available for the event. Acknowledged the relationship with the previous mayor.

Victor acknowledged it would be helpful to have the form filled. Asked if we can have discussion around this topic.

Brett asked if the commission previously worked with other organizations or just city government. That talking to other organizations would be helpful.

Nate The topic could be pushed to the Community Outreach and Social Media committee to work on.

Committee Commission Elections

Social Media: Nate nominated Brett and Brett nominated Nate as co-chairs

Andrew motioned to Elect Nate, Victor seconded. **Roll call vote all said yes**

Andrew motioned to Elect Brett, Victor seconded. **Roll call vote all said yes**

POC: Andrew nominated Raja

Andrew motioned to Elect Raja, Victor seconded. **Roll call vote all said yes**

CommsOps: Andrew stated he would like to give someone else the opportunity and nominated Steven. Steven accepted the nomination. Andrew motioned to Elect Steven Victor seconded. **Roll call vote all said yes**

SOCR Report

Martha - The link to request for requesting the Mayor calendar for a request to attend the Pride raising would be sent out. The new Director Derrick Wheeler has started and would be interested in attending a meeting. There is a backlog of Mayoral appointment being worked on currently.

Co-chair update

Victor Wrote a letter of recognition was written for the Imperial Court 50th year anniversary

5-Chair Commission Report

Andrew and Kyana are working on a video series training that is created at a self-pace. The women's commission is looking for a more inclusive language to help with their recruitment process. There was a bit of controversial with some chairs from other commissions on identity. The need for a joint community outreach with other commission.

Brett Suggested talking with the Women's commission and giving them feedback on gender language.

Kyana Shared a video sample on the training series. Talked about the Paradox of practice and lack of awareness. The need to dismantle patriarchy. The need for folks to be aware of being in a public forum.

Nate Inquired if the Women's commission moved with the change

Martha Informed that the Women's commission will reexamine and discuss on the issue. The need for them to have more inclusive message for recruiting and more inclusive training.

Brett Talked about attending the Women's commission meeting. Having a mixed space can be tricky for non-binary people. It's not just about changing names, but celebration trans and non-binary communities.

Steven Not just putting a label, lack of action, slapping a name. We all need to put in work to it.

Kyana "I can't be liberated until we are all liberated"

Announcements, Reminders, & Roll Call

Jessi Moving to Massachusetts late Spring or early Summer and would roll off once the term is over.

Victor closed off the meeting