

City of Seattle Domestic Workers Standards Board Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2025, 6:30pm

Held via Zoom

Members Attending: Silvia Gonzalez, Jordan Goldwarg, Baylie Freeman, Elvia Cortez, Estefana Harry, Eddy Dominguez, Danielle Budd, Gea Bassett

Members Absent:, Etelbina Hauser, Becca Rose, Liz Hunter-Keller

OLS Staff: Diana Salazar, Jeanette Aranda, Tina Sigurdson, Jennifer Molina, Steve Marchese, Kerem Levitas

1. Welcome and Introductions
 - a. Elvia called the meeting to order at 6:32 and asked everyone attending to introduce themselves in the chat.
2. Message from Steve and Kerem, OLS
 - a. Steve Marchese, OLS Director, reaffirmed that OLS does not take into account immigration status when people bring complaints forward. All Seattle workers should feel safe bringing forward a complaint.
 - b. OLS also continues to strive to serve workers in a range of languages.
 - c. OLS is grateful for the support of the board in the past to advocate for budget allocations that allow OLS to fulfill its role.
 - d. Steve also recognized the new members of the board and applauded the board for continuing to develop the leadership capacity of all board members.
 - e. Kerem Levitas, OLS Policy Manager, introduced himself and thanked the board for their service.
3. Guest Presenter (Ariel Schneier, City Attorney Office)
 - a. Ariel provided a training on the state's Open Public Meetings Act.
4. Approval of minutes
 - a. Silvia motioned, and the minutes from the May board meeting were approved unanimously.
5. OLS Updates
 - a. Policy
 - i. Diana shared that the City would like to move forward with the appointments of new members in July.
 - ii. Diana introduced a new person who is interested in joining the board.
 - iii. Diana shared that next month, the board will receive trainings in ethics and racial justice.
 - iv. Diana offered congratulations for the know-your-rights training that LSAC and the DWSB co-hosted last week.
 - b. Outreach
 - i. Jennifer shared that OLS will hold a virtual train-the-trainer workshop on the DWO on July 23

- ii. OLS will be amplifying the DWO on social media platforms throughout July.
- c. Enforcement
 - i. Jeanette shared that there is still an ongoing investigation. It will be a few months before the case is ready to be handed off to an investigator.
 - ii. There is interest in exploring the possibility of a workers comp fund that would support workers who lose their job because of coming forward with a complaint.
 - iii. Baylie offered that part of this could be helping workers to find another job through some kind of referral program.
 - iv. Jordan asked if there is any precedent for a private fund to be administered through a city agency. Jeanette said there may be a precedent in Oregon. Or it's possible that OLS could refer workers to apply to a private fund.
 - v. Gea asked if the city generates income when an investigation successfully concludes. Jeanette responded that in reality, all of the penalties go directly to workers, except for legal fees and fines, which are paid back to cover the city's costs.
- 6. Coalition Updates
 - a. Kim shared an update from the Coalition. The Coalition will be meeting with Tina on Wednesday to review a draft of the PTO report.
- 7. Council Updates
 - a. Today, a group met with CM Rivera's Chief of Staff.
 - b. Last week, a group met with CM Solomon.
 - c. Upcoming meetings will be with CM Strauss and CM Moore's replacement.
 - d. Advocacy will continue to focus on support for BOEF/COEF.
 - e. Diana will share an Elections 101 training/update at the July board meeting.
- 8. DWSB Subcommittees
 - a. There is a proposal to combine the Outreach and Tools subcommittees; Gea made a motion, and the motion carried unanimously
 - b. The two subcommittees met separately for work time.
- 9. Public Comment
 - a. Pimmipa Thawai introduced herself as someone interested in serving on the board.
 - b. Silvia recognized Elvia for sharing information about the DWSB/LSAC event with Casa Latina members, which resulted in a very strong turnout.
- 10. Close
 - a. Baylie adjourned the meeting at 8:27pm.