



City of Seattle

Community Involvement Commission

Community Involvement Commission (CIC) June 2024 Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2024

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Webex Meeting & Seattle City Hall Room 370

Commissioners present: Ahoua Koné, Martha Lucas, Heidi Morisset, Julio Perez, Mike Seo

Commissioners not in attendance: Marcus White, Cade Wiger, Nausheen Rajan

City of Seattle Staff present:

Alvin Edwards, Laura Jenkins, and Lydia Faitalia (Department of Neighborhoods)

Transcriber's Note: The notes shown below are summaries of statements provided. They are not transcriptions and have been shortened and edited to include the major points raised. Full comments are retained in the files in video recording and available upon request.

Community Comments and Vote on 5/20 Meeting Minutes

The commission voted to approve the May 20, 2024 Community Involvement Commission meeting minutes.

Old Business – Poll Results

Commissioner Mike Seo thanked commissioners for their ideas, opinions, and experiences serving on the CIC; responses to the CIC Experience Survey were sent to everyone and reviewed on screen.

- The plan is to revisit this survey at the July meeting with the intent of having the executive committee propose an action plan after obtaining additional feedback.

The next poll was related to in-person meeting availability; this was a suggestion made at last month's meeting.

- Staff liaison Laura Jenkins reported on the responses from six of the eight commissioners. Potential dates were identified, as were different areas of the city and venues.

Five-minute Break

Quarterly Assessment Review

Staff displayed for viewing an assessment of the March through May meetings.

- Staff liaison Jenkins asked whether commissioners wanted to separate sections discussing specific community feedback to commissioners for ease in tracking these activities.
 - She had taken these meetings out of the quarterly assessment, asking whether commissioners prefer they remain in the document.
 - The consensus was to add these community meetings back into the assessment document.

Staff Liaison Updates

- Get Out the Vote Idea
 - Recap advice from Ethics & Elections – The Ethics office suspects complaints, whether legitimate or not, may be filed if the CIC were engaged in this activity, and for this reason does not view this as a good idea. Commissioners would need to be cautious in not appearing to endorse or oppose any particular party.
 - Democracy Voucher Program – Staff learned there are several outreach events if the CIC wanted to partner with this program. The consensus was to wait for feedback from CIC subcommittees to determine how they may wish to partner with the DVP.
 - This will be revisited at next month’s meeting to allow sub-committees an opportunity to meet prior and discuss.
- Follow up on Neighborhood Match Fund (NMF) Questions and potential future meeting topic/conversation. Staff liaison Jenkins provided NMF as an example showing how the CIC provided advising work, and the city’s response. It was former Commissioner Fiona Murray who had given the NMF as an example from years ago to show how the commission was able to provide specific advice.
- Staff liaison Lydia Faitalia wanted to know if the commission would be interested in submitting comments on the Transportation Levy or having guest speakers from other City departments.
 - Commissioner Heidi Morisset observed there were several City department representatives present at the recent Department of Neighborhoods open house who had expressed interest in learning about the CIC and their advisory role.
- Recruitment updates:
 - The most recent recruitment period for the Community Involvement Commission ended on June 3.
 - Seven people applied to join the commission during May and June. With seven applications already on file, there are potentially 14 candidates to fill eight vacancies (seats tied to City Council Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5, two Mayoral appointments, and one commission-selected appointment).
 - Staff Liaisons have followed up with City Council offices on next steps to start the interview/review process for potential commissioners. There were no applications from District 5. At least three Council offices have responded back to staff so far.

- Staff liaisons will reach out to the Mayor's Office soon.
 - Staff may speak with the co-chairs about the commission-appointed position.
- Commissioner Morisset responded to Commissioner Koné that thank you letters to retiring commissioners Southern and Murray will be sent. Staff liaison Edwards confirmed the exit survey had already been sent to both.

New Business

This will be an added section going forward to allow commissioners an opportunity to introduce topics for discussion. Depending on the issue, these may require further exploration in addition to the regular CIC meeting. Commissioner Morisset said the goal of adding this portion to the agenda is to encourage collaborative conversations, and not to limit discussion items to whatever she and Co-Chair Wiger put on the agenda.

Commissioner Perez asked about next steps for Robert's Rules training or information sharing.

- Staff liaison Faitalia will scan the 'cheat sheet' and send it to commissioners.
- The next steps that had been discussed were to have both co-chairs and Commissioner Koné attend the in-person training session, along with staff liaisons Edwards and Jenkins.
- Staff liaison Faitalia believes the in-person training session is in mid-July, and commissioners will be alerted as soon as the date is set.
- The consensus is to hold off on training remaining commissioners until a few more are appointed.

Onboarding Document update next steps

The goal was to approve the changes made previously to allow the document to be published.

- In absence of a quorum, this item will be added to next month's agenda to put to a vote.
- Staff liaison Jenkins can have printed copies available at next month's meeting that incorporate the changes discussed previously.
- The digital version showing the tracked change will also be shown on screen.

Community Comments & Closing

Commissioner Perez asked commissioners to let him know if there were any issues anyone wanted him to bring back to the next District 7 meeting.

- These meetings are mainly composed of various community group members, sometime small business associations, and led by Councilmember Kettle.
- The main agenda item for the next meeting is the Comprehensive Plan.
- He expects he will be called upon and asked if he has comments to make on behalf of the CIC; the meeting is open to the public.

- Commissioner Morisset suggested having Commissioner Perez let District 7 attendees know what the CIC mission and purpose is, then ask if there could be ways the CIC could be a resource.

July Subcommittee Minutes

None submitted.