

MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Jefferson Mok (Chair), Diana Parra (Vice-Chair), Silong Chhun, George Conzuelo, Jason Gamboa, Eunice Kalembo, Hieu Nguyen, Maria Ramos, Saiyare Refaei, Alma Vargas

Commissioners Absent: Vaelupemau Anitema, Clara Zamallo

City Staff Present: Alison Beason, Samantha Kaauamo

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:39 – Chair Mok
- II. Land acknowledgement of meeting being held on Indigenous land: the traditional homelands of the Puyallup people. – Chair Mok
- III. Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present.
- IV. Consent on Agendas: Vice-Chair Parra called for a motion to approve the CIRA Business Meeting Agenda July 23, 2019. The motion was made, seconded, and carried.
- V. **Commission General Business:**
 - Updated By-laws
 - Definition of Chair and Vice Chair Roles
 - Meeting Frequency
 - Creating Committees / Working Groups
 - Public Charge is used by U.S. immigration officials to refer to a person who is considered primarily dependent on the government for subsistence, as demonstrated by either receipt of public cash assistance for income maintenance or institutionalization for long-term care at government expense.
 - The public has 60-days to comment on this ruling to eliminate public assistance to people.
 - Center for American progress report and flyers given to commissioners.
 - The 2020 Census will have a question on citizenship. In addition, the Census is only available online. Commissioners has concern about citizenship questions and it's reporting.
- VI. **Items of Business**
 - Emails and Open Public Meetings Act
 - Commissioners can reply directly to chair and vice chair, but when including 6 or more Commissioner will violate the Open Public Meetings Act.
 - Committees

- Commissioners Gamboa suggested sub-committees consist of 5 commissioners. Commissioners would like outside agencies and Subject Matters Experts to be part of commissioners.
- Chair Mok would like to do a weekly update via newsletter or otherwise.

Committee Suggestions:

- Alison introduced the draft of the work plan and mission template document.
- Facilitator gave an overview of graphic from retreat.
 - Group work: creation of categories and frame work focus.
- Vice Chair Parra: Northwest Detention Center (NWDC) could be its own committee
- Commissioner Refaei wants to add collaboration with other commissions in Puget Sound
 - Commissioner Chunn motion to add NWDC at its own category to the commissions priorities| Chair 2nd the motion | All in favor| No nays | **Motion passed**

Recruitment:

- Getting Commissioners from Muslim, Russian and Slovak communities

Brainstorm of NWDC priorities:

- Accountability from people running the center and City and other agencies involved
- Transparency of practices and policies. (Would like a tour of the center)
- Establish line of communication with Geo Group or someone at center
- Commissioner Hieu instead of broad goal, make more specific, i.e. no charge for phone usage
- Make more positive statement and focus on being more humane
- Below are the items they feel are #1 for the categories
 - Increase awareness of legal free services in the community.
 - Inform the community about the amount available in the Depuration Defense Fund,

Law Enforcement/ Police

- Keep training and accountability at top, "education on police/law enforcement interaction" is just as important as "community and family safety planning"

Community

- Promote positive image of immigrants
- Education for immigrants
- Cultural vibrancy
- Healthcare and support system
- Build on welcoming cities
- Being treated fairly



Language Access

- Access to free translator/interpreter services
- Parent language access at school
- Align with Title 6 requirements and how commission can help align The City

Commissioners structure & vision: align commission priorities

VII. Discussion of future agenda items:

- Detention center
- Develop & align priorities for 2018-2019
- Create subcommittee

Round table:

Commissioners shared background and information

Chair Mok will circulate info Saturday mornings within the newsletter

In September is welcoming cities week. Next meetings suggestion to think about ways to get involved and maybe sponsor events.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm

