



# Seattle Human Rights Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 17, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.  
Hosted online on Zoom.

## Call to Order

- Quorum Reached at 7:04 p.m.

## Public Comment

No members of the public present

## Items of Business

### 1. Guest Speaker

Idabelle Fosse of King County presented on the Crisis Care Centers presenting to present commissioners prior to official Call to Order.

- 2023 levy approved to support 5 crisis care centers in Seattle. Safe place for people having a mental health crisis or substance use crisis.
- Prior to the levy the police were called resulting in incarceration.
- Last year the implementation plan for the crisis care center was approved. The legislation also included expansion of 911 and 988, additional rapid response crisis teams and awarded 15 M for capital improvements, and 12 M to community health providers along with 4.8 M to SEIU for workforce development and training in crisis services for a diverse group of providers who reflect those being served.
- First Kirkland crisis care center opened a year ago in February
- CCCs provide help to people who decide they are in crisis regardless of insurance.
- There are 4 different crisis response zones; North, East, South and Central with Seattle and Vashon in it. There will be one center in each and another specific to youth.
- A company called Connections opens CCC across the country. The CCCs see ~30 people a day and engage with them within 10 min. Huge boon for the police.

- With 5 CCCs staffed 24/7; each will require ~150 people to staff them. Important to train folks for this work.
- CCCs have 3 components; Urgent Care, front door to the center, 60-80% of people will have needs met at urgent care w/no need for additional stay. Others may need to detox or transition from one med to another, they can go into a 23 hour observation unit where people can rest, shower and get a meal under observation. If they are found to need additional support they can be taken to hospital or go to a stabilization unit on site where they can stay for up to 14 days.
  - If someone is staying longer it is a lock down with a psych eval and a strong peer component. Centering peer specialists in every part of the crisis care center.
  - Opioid Resource and Care center is a different program being kicked off.
- Attempting to acquire the Polyclinic site on Capitol Hill, with the understanding it would be central to Seattle, large enough, zoned appropriately for the use. There is push back from the business community on Capitol Hill now. In limbo over the acquisition.
- Doing a great deal of engagement to gain support. Several events held recently, Sean Scott and Alexis Rinck held gatherings. Community concerns relate to safety, and what happens to people once they're seen at the CCC.
  - 80% of people have needs met by urgent care. Concerns in
  - RFP for new program post crisis follow up program. Looking for providers for when people are first admitted, then create a plan and follow up for up to 90 days to give them support in getting their needs met.
  - Want for the program to be culturally and linguistically appropriate for people after their stay at the CCC.
  - By the end of the year the want is to hire operators for the program in the various zones.
  - Many local periodicals have written about CCCs multiple times. The Seattle Women's Commission has written a letter of support to the CCC on Capitol Hill.
- The Human Rights Commission could send a letter of support to the City County and the Mayor's office as well.
- In 2030 the plan is for all 5 of the CCCs to be up and running.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

June 5<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting Minutes approved unanimously.

## 3. Committee Reports

### 1. Executive

- a. Appeals - Commissioner N. Leydon is back and is the Chair for Appeals again.
  - i. Meetings are the second Thursdays at 4pm. Please sign up
- b. Treasurer - Commission J. Munger- no updates.
- c. Commissioner B. Quander- Commissioner Updates; all commissioners are confirmed. There is another candidate for the SHRC but they are currently running for a City Council seat and their SHRC candidacy is on hold.
- d. Commissioner Lewis sent an email on 7/7 re: recommending removal of Commissioner Phadake. Reasoning is they have not complied with Commission Bylaws regarding attendance at Commission meetings and committees.
  - i. It was moved by Commissioner Quander; seconded by Commissioner Lewis to remove Commissioner Phadake. Roll Call was taken and the Motion to Remove passed unanimously.

### 2. Communications – Commissioner Duston

- e. Vote
  - i. Allocating \$100 from budget for Commission Gmail service through the rest of the year.
  - ii. Motion moved by Commissioner Bailey; seconded by Commissioner Hultgren. Motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Events – Commissioner Hultgren

- Next meeting on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of July and every other following Wednesday.
- Immigrant rights is the theme for Human Rights Day so if there are associated points of contact for Avery please share for the event

### 4. Criminal Justice Reform Task Force – Commissioner Quander

- Commissioner Smith joined the group.

- Added new item to the work plan, brought by Commissioner Bailey re: ID for ICE officers.
- TF Working with City Policy advisor, and with Councilmember Rinck assistant Kayden.
- Looking to draft ordinance and gather support to propose in Council. Looking into other States, Counties doing the same work and bring to the community and our Councilmembers to support
- Finalizing work plan

#### **5. Housing and Unhoused Taskforce – Commissioner Bailey**

- Met with Kevin Lee new staff at Seattle KC Coalition on homelessness on how to collaborate. Coalition has monthly meetings and had a rep from the TF attends those meetings.
- Upcoming meeting w/ WA State housing finance commission. September Statewide housing conference. Looking to ask them to allow us to send someone
- Met with Tim Thomas at KC Regional Homelessness Authority - Want to hold Evicting the American Dream, screening the movie in October before the election, to invite candidates.
- Legislatively things start happening in the fall and the TF is organizing advocacy strategy for then.

#### **6. Human Trafficking Taskforce – Commissioner Duston**

- WASHACT - meeting with the human trafficking coordinator.
- Miriam is on her leave.
- Councilmember Saka has not responded re: FIFA coordination.
  - Next steps to reach out to Saka's Chief of staff.

### **4. Unfinished Business**

#### **Bylaws – Commissioners McCullough and Bailey**

- a. Circulated updated Bylaws with comments from Legal counsel for review by the Commission.
- b. Any issues Commissioners have with the updates or with comments/changes by counsel should be brought to Commissioners G. McCullough and A. Bailey for resolution prior to the August Commission meeting.
- c. Any additional revisions will be discussed with counsel and sent back out to the Commission at least 2 weeks prior to the August

Commission meeting where a Vote will be held to approve the Bylaws.

## 5. New Business

- A. Commissioner Lewis moves that the Commission's Executive Committee write a letter of support for the Crisis Care Centers to Idabelle Fosse, the City Council, and the Mayor's office.
  - a. The motion is seconded by Commissioner Munger.
  - b. Motion passed unanimously.
- B. Commissioner B. Quander - Group Outing Proposed- form circulated for Commission to fill out.
- C. Commissioner Lewis - Sent letter to City Council Review Committee to hold a forum to discuss filling Councilmember vacancy for District 5 seat. Council reviewed possible candidates up for consideration earlier this week.

## Announcements

### 1. Seattle Office for Civil Rights Updates

- a. Marta will return in August
- b. Digital accessibility requirements have been put in place by the Mayor's office.
  - i. This will relate to all OCR documents. Remediation process underway by Sebastian and Sage.
  - ii. Training being put in place and templates provided to help with Commissioners with consistency.
- c. Email sent out today re: Disability Blog post. Want to build up that commission.
- d. Kia the temp admin in OCR was warmly welcomed.
- e. Next week on Weds there is a Race & Social Justice Training available for Commissioners. The sign up has been circulated via email. RSVP for the training.

### 2. Additional Announcements

- a. Communication within the Commission is up for discussion at next month's meeting with a vote to choose an app (Signal, Dischord, or another appropriate option) in order to better manage our discoverable communications.

- b. An email will be sent characterizing Signal and Dischord for Commissioners to review prior to the vote.
- c. The new Seattle Police Chief is doing public engagement

## **Schedule of Upcoming Meetings and Events**

Next Meeting, August 7, 2025, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

**Adjourned; 7:41 p.m.**