**Agenda**

**Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs**

**Date:** April 26th, 2021

**Time:** 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

**Location:** Zoom (Click the following link to join the meeting):

<https://zoom.us/j/96749278841?pwd=cGJMZTRsbkhKemlsUEgyM0wwRGh4QT09>

Meeting ID: 967 4927 8841

Passcode: 460504

Call-In Number: (253) 215-8782

1. **Call Meeting to Order** – Chair Refaei
2. **Statement of Purpose** – Chair Refaei

We convene this meeting to advance the City of Tacoma’s mission to “reducing barriers to access and participation in Tacoma’s economic, cultural, and civic life for immigrants and refugees.” This Commission aspires to help “make the City more vibrant, inclusive, and welcoming for all.”

1. **Land Acknowledgment** – Vice Chair Sych

*The Commission acknowledges that the meeting is being conducted on Indigenous lands of the Puyallup People, who cared for their ancestral lands before the Medicine Creek Treaty of 1854 removed native peoples to clear way for colonial settlement. It is important to this Commission as settlers here, aspiring to care for immigrants and refugees in this place and to call it home, that we acknowledge and send gratitude to the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who continue to be leaders for justice in our community today.*

1. **Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences** – Chair Refaei

\_\_\_\_ Emily Calhoun \_\_\_\_ Patricia Flores

\_\_\_\_ Perla Gamboa \_\_\_\_ Emani Donaldson

\_\_\_\_ Hieu Nguyen \_\_\_\_ Saiyare Refaei (Chair)

\_\_\_\_ Rafael Saucedo \_\_\_\_ Sandra Sych (Vice-Chair)

\_\_\_\_ Lydia Zepeda \_\_\_\_ Alma Villegas

\_\_\_\_ Alma Vargas \_\_\_\_ Alternate Position (Vacant)

1. **Introduction of New CIRA Members** – Chair Refaei (15 minutes)
2. **Consent Agenda** – Chair Refaei
   1. Approval of Meeting Agenda (Yay/Nay Votes)
   2. Approval of February and March 2021 Meeting Minutes (Yay/Nay Votes)
3. **Commission Affairs** (30 min)
   1. Introduction of Officer Mohamud Ali as new TPD liaison to CIRA (5 minutes)
   2. Tacoma Public Library Discussion (20 minutes)
   3. Community Safety Committee report on April meeting and City’s response/engagement re: AAPI hate crimes and BIPOC safety in Tacoma (20 minutes)
4. **Community Affairs** 
   1. Community Updates (30 min)

* Discussion re: Community Engagement Committee
* Governance (of CIRA) Committee
* Language Access Committee
* NW Detention Center Committee

1. **City Staff Updates**
2. **Public Comment**
3. **Items for Next Meeting**
4. **Adjourn**

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| **Why do we recognize the land?**  To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory you reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial. It is important to understand the long-standing history that has brought you to reside on the land, and to seek to understand your place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. It is also worth noting that acknowledging the land is Indigenous protocol.  –http://www.lspirg.org/knowtheland |

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| **NOTES** |
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