



Agenda

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Date: May 23rd, 2022

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

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

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91791840410?pwd=d3lyYW44Tm8wT1NrNIU4ekRsWERNQT09>

Meeting ID: 967 9184 0410

Passcode: 264285

Real-time Spanish translation will be available during the meeting.

I. Call Meeting to Order – Chair Sych

II. Statement of Purpose – Chair Sych

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.”

III. Land Acknowledgment – Vice Chair Donaldson

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.

IV. Consent Agenda – Chair Sych

- a. Approval of Meeting Agenda (Aye/Nay Votes)
- b. Approval of January - March 2022 Meeting Minutes (Aye/Nay Votes)

V. Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences – Chair Sych

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emani Donaldson (Vice-Chair) | <input type="checkbox"/> Thierry Ruboneka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natalie Ghayoumi | <input type="checkbox"/> Sandra Sych (Chair) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Stacy Kowalski | <input type="checkbox"/> Maricres Valdez Castro |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Samantha Le | <input type="checkbox"/> Alma Villegas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maurice Lekea | <input type="checkbox"/> Lydia Zepeda |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hieu Nguyen | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Position (Vacant) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hugo Nicolas | <input type="checkbox"/> Leena Vo - Alternate Position |

Commissioners

Sandra Sych (Chair)
Emily Calhoun
Lydia Zepeda
Emani Donaldson (Vice Chair)
Alma Villegas

Perla Gamboa
Hieu Nguyen
Rafael Saucedo

VI. Group Get-To-Know-You Activity - Vice-Chair Donaldson

- a. All commissioners introduce themselves and say why they joined the commission
- b. City staff introduces themselves and gives an overview what's their role in supporting CIRA

VII. City Staff Updates – Liaison Raeshawna

- a. What is CIRA
- b. Founding documentation Resolution and Bylaws
- c. Roles and Responsibilities and Role of CIRA leadership
- d. Roberts Rules of Order and Voting
- e. Public meetings and the OPMA
- f. CIRA recruitment process
- g. How the commission should communicate with city government
- h. Commissioner Required Training <https://www.atg.wa.gov/open-government-training>

VIII. Commission Affairs (50 min)

- a. Committee Updates and Overview of work
 - Community Safety Committee
 - Governance (of CIRA) Committee
 - Language Access Committee
- b. Discuss Annual Work Plans– Chair Sych
- c. Additional Orientation and Onboarding Needs – Chair Sych
- d. Talk about the potential of creating more committees
- e. Discuss with new commissioners on which committees they would want to join
- f. New CIRA commissioners small group meeting

IX. Public Comment

X. Items to Consider for Next Meeting:

XI. Adjourn

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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Commissioners

Sandra Sych (Chair)
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