



Special Meeting Agenda

Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs

Date: Monday, December 18, 2023

Time: 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Location: Hybrid Tacoma Municipal Building
747 Market Street
Conference Room #243
Tacoma, WA 98402

The Tacoma Municipal Building is served by Pierce Transit bus routes 1, 2, 11, 16, 45, and 57.
Visit www.triplanner.piercetransit.org to find your route.

Please click the link below to join the webinar Zoom.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/91791840410?pwd=d3lyYW44Tm8wT1NrNIU4ekRsWERnQT09>

Passcode: 264285

Webinar ID: 917 9184 0410

-
- I. Call Meeting to Order (5:30 pm) – Chair Natalie Ghayoumi**
- II. Statement of Purpose (5:33 pm) – Commissioner Hieu Nguyen**
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 (5:35 pm) – Commissioner Emani 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. Record of Attendance and Excusal of Absences – Chair Natalie Ghayoumi (6:36 pm to 6:39 pm)**
- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emani Donaldson | <input type="checkbox"/> Thierry Ruboneka |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Natalie Ghayoumi Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Maricres Valdez Castro. Vice Chair |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Samantha Le | <input type="checkbox"/> Alicia Sands |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lydia Zepeda | <input type="checkbox"/> Andy Mejia, Youth Position |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Maurice Lekea | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hieu Nguyen | <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hugo Nicolas. Second Vice Chair | <input type="checkbox"/> Alternate Vacant |

- V. **Consent Agenda (5:40 pm)** – Chair Natalie Ghayoumi
- a. Approval of Meeting Agenda for December 18, 2023 (Aye/Nay Votes)
 - b. Approval of special meeting November 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes (Aye/Nay Votes)

VI. **Public Comment (5:45 – 5:50 pm)**

VII. **Commission Affairs (5:51 pm to 6:49 pm)**

- a. Recruitment Plans and Committee assignments
- b. Second Vice Chair Hugo Nicolas Presentation and Strategy
- c. Legislative Updates
- d. Attendance
- e. CVS Report and deadline for Subcommittee Chairs
- f. Bylaws Update
- g. Committee Updates
 - Governance (of CIRA) Committee Wednesday, 2023- 08/09, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm **(6:50 – 6:55 pm)**
 - Questions and discussions **(6:56 pm– 7:06 pm)**
 - Community Safety Committee Wednesday, 2023-08/16, 11 am to 12 pm **(6:40 – 6:49 pm)**
 - Questions and discussions **(6:50 pm-7:00 pm)**

VIII. **Immigration Local News and Updates – Vice Chair (7:00 pm to 7:10 pm)**

IX. **City Staff Updates – OEHR Staff (7:11 pm – 7:21 pm)**

- a. Recruitment Updates if any
 - Any commissioners up for re-appointment?

X. **Items to Consider for Next Meeting & Announcements (7:22 pm – 7:30 pm)**

XI. **Adjourn (7:30 pm)**

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>



The City of Tacoma does not discriminate on the basis of disability in any of its programs, activities, or services. To request this information in an alternative format or to request a reasonable accommodation, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (253) 591-5505. TTY or speech to speech users please dial 711 to connect to Washington Relay Services.