



Mayor's Youth Commission of Tacoma

Leadership Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Zoom Meeting

3:00 p.m.

Meeting Start Time: 3:08 pm

Meeting End Time: 3:48 pm

Attendance: Nate Minor, Nathan Essman, Logan Cornwell, Zoha Ahmad, Tara Ryan, Tara Zolfagahri, Mackenzie Sunde, Rowan Ali, Rita T, Bucoda Warren, Ted Richardson, Leandra Shelton

Suggestions from the Justice & Safety Committee

- Request from Commissioners to update the website more frequently to share the work of the commission.
 - Example - the educational campaigns, signed letters, etc.
- Instagram Ad promotion - suggestion to do another promotion to grow membership.
 - Chair Nate Minor to add to the Social Media Committee's agenda discussion about upcoming promotions.
- Commissioners suggested to the commission to utilize *Slack* to share work and for collaboration instead of *Group Me*.
 - Commissioner Sunde suggested the platforms, *Telegram* and *Remind*.

Pierce Transit

Pierce Transit has reached out to the Youth Commission with possible collaborative opportunities, including:

- Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Community Committee. Currently, in the design phase and actively seeking public input. The Community Committee will meet periodically, learn more about the project, discuss its impacts, and share that information with their respective groups.
- 2021 Student Art Contest. Not occurring until May, but planning starts in March.

Amendments and Review Committee Update

- Nearly complete with finalizing suggestions for revisions.
- Request for liaisons to attend the next meeting to review the suggested revisions.
- Sexual Harassment and Non Discrimination clauses are included in the update. They are also updating other bylaws to fit more in line with how the commission is currently operating.

Community Learning Conference Committee

Opportunity for 1 - 2 commissioners to join the Community Learning Conference Committee. The Foundation for Tacoma Students is hosting a Community Learning Conference in April. The community committee will help drive the content of the conference.

Details of the opportunity include:

- Must Participate in all Five Required Meetings: Jan (1), Feb (2), Mar (2)
- Must Commit to One Committee: additional meetings may be necessary
- Will Receive a \$750 Volunteer Stipend.
- Meetings and conferences will occur virtually.

Committee Updates

Environmental Health

- They are meeting with the City's Sustainability office on Saturday, 1/9.
- Committee will be meeting with the COT attorney regarding the LNG plant in January.
- The committee is looking to attend Sustainability Commission meetings that occur once a month.

Education, Arts, & Culture

- Finalized questions for their education survey
- Planning an educational campaign that increases STEM opportunities for Tacoma Students

Social Health

- The committee is creating a survey for youth in Tacoma regarding mental health services and what is needed.

Justice & Safety

- Hosted a social meeting to connect with committee members
- Working on an educational campaign regarding defunding the police
- Commissioner Terah Gruber was selected to fill the youth seat of the Citizen Police Advisory Committee (CPAC).

1/16/2021 General Assembly

Start Time: 3:05pm

End Time: 4:29pm

Attendance: Tara Ryan, Terah Gruber, Anna Finch, Mackenzie Sunde, Tara Zolfagharii, Zoha Ahmad, Logan Cornwell, Stella Keating, Nathan Essman, Anastasia Markham, Tricia Estrada, Rowan Ali, Naomi Alvarez, Ruby Neilson, Sylvan Baldwin-Money, Isha Hussein, Jacob

Liaisons: Ted Richardson, Leandra Shelton, Nate Minor

Guests: Alex Alderman, Pierce Transit

Pierce Transit BRT Presentation

Link to Slides (requesting from Alex)

1. BRT Community Committee
 - A platform for community members to share their input on the project.
 - We are seeking 2 - 5 students (high school or college) to join the committee.
 - Meet quarterly via Zoom
 - Committee will receive updates on the project.
 - Open dialogue - ask questions and provide feedback.
 - The next meeting will be in March or April. Committee members will determine the time. Typically evenings and lasts 1.5 hours.
2. 2021 Student Art Contest
 - 2020 was the first Student Art Contest
 - The artwork is displayed at bus stops or on bus wraps.
 - 2021 planning
 - They seek feedback from the Youth Commission to see if students would like to be involved in the development of the project.
 - Promotional support from the Commission
 - Contact Alex via email at aalderman@piercettransit.org

Graduate Tacoma Advocacy Priorities

- The Commission heard about the Graduate Tacoma Movement Advocacy Priorities and ways that the Commission or students can engage or support.
- White papers on each priority are available on the [Graduate Tacoma website](#).
- A month of advocacy will begin in February. Leandra will share with the commission opportunities and tool kits for engagement.
- [Advocacy 101 training](#) being offered through the Youth Development Executive of King County.

Innovate WA Challenge

The State of Innovation Challenge is a virtual, career connected learning problem-solving challenge for middle school, high school, and out of school youth — including Open Doors students, WIOA-eligible youth, and Opportunity Youth

Interested folks should do the following:

- Check out the challenges page, watch the case videos, and use the background information to help you.
- Pick the [project type](#) you want to work on — Nano, Micro, or Macro.
- Join the [industry engagement sessions](#) that interest you.
- Review the [submission guidelines](#) and submit your challenge through the [portal](#).
- Submissions Accepted NOW through March 4th.
- Website <https://www.innovationwa.org>

Committee Updates

1. **Justice & Safety**
 - We heard updates from CPAC.

- Discussed the current project of the educational campaign regarding defunding the police

2. Environmental Health

- Discussed Tacoma Environmental Action Plan
- We are meeting with the COT Attorney Wednesday (1/20) to learn about the LNG plant.

3. Social Health

- We discussed getting mental health resources on TPS website.
- We would like to invite Nathan Essman to a committee meeting who fills the Tacoma Public Schools board's student seat.
- We seek to connect with TPS to learn how counselors are checking in with students and available resources.

4. Education, Arts, & Culture

- Interested in the Pierce Transit art project and supporting that
- We would like to work with the Summit Ad-hoc committee to create Diversity and Equity sessions for the youth summit.