



Commission Chair Franklin Donahoe
Representing Snohomish County

Commissioner Sara Franklin-Phillips
Representing South King County

Commissioner De'Sean Quinn
Representing South King County

Commissioner Sheila Reed Trahan
Representing Tri-Cities

Commissioner Dr. James Smith
Representing King County

Commissioner Dorian Waller
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Andrea Caupain
Representing King County

Commissioner Will Howard
Representing Pierce County

Executive Director Edward O. Prince

Public Meeting Commission on African American Affairs

Thursday, November 14, 2019

Renton Library – 100 Mill Ave. S., Renton, WA 98057

4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Members present: Chair Donahoe, Commissioners, Caupain, Franklin-Phillips, Howard, Kendricks, Quinn, Reed-Trahan, Smith, Executive Director Edward Prince and Executive Assistant Charlotte Kerney.
Quorum established

Absent: Commissioner Waller

4:00 PM - Meeting called to order

4:35 PM - Motion to accept previous meeting minutes as written. Motion withdrawn.

4:40 PM – I-940 Update

This work has been historic due to the stakeholders from across the state and the families involved who have been instrumental in moving the process forward. It isn't done yet, but as a community, we should be proud.

Community conversations have moved the training guideline piece, however the independent investigations piece yet to come is going to be the toughest part. Families who have lost people have been very helpful in moving the needle despite those who want to return to their prior positions. The community is organizing, getting on public record and have been very helpful in moving the discussion forward as well as moving law enforcement. Seems the momentum is shifting in the right direction against the old, accepted status quo - all due to community involvement. After it's done, there are components that speaks directly to future community involvement becoming a part the state commission's [law enforcement] process. The community's voice will be involved in these matters and will need to be organized to articulate a representative nature of where the community is – whether the training has been successful, if so, how successful has it been? Have we've seen it real life in our community? The hard part is moving the entire mindset forward.

An ombudsman is a point of contention for law enforcement. The strategy is to look at the totality of the state and have consistency across jurisdictions - thus an ombudsman is not on the list. December 6 is the deadline on the state rule on independent investigations. Suggested Sue Rahr of the Training Commission be present for the next CAAA commission meeting to speak about the totality of the process.

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5:00 PM – Mount Zion Development Affordable Housing Presentation

McKinney Manor was the first project 64-unit facility developed by the Mount Zion Development (MZD) in 1998. **Mount Zion on 19th** is a 60-unit project of senior housing to include 5000 sq. ft. of retail space. Submitted a request for first-round financing through the Housing Trust Fund. Currently in an application round with the City of Seattle and a funding package request has been submitted to King County. Their development cost of about \$18 million is competitive. The land was owned by the church free and clear. It is a 4% tax credit project that will gain equity through the sale of tax credits. Three investors - Capital One, Wells Fargo, and Key Bank - are interested in purchasing the tax credits. MZD will seek tax credits and permits in 2020. Mount Zion on 19th is the first project by MZD within the last 20 years, but hopes this is the starting point to more affordable housing projects. The church is also exploring land banking of additional properties around the church.

Commission suggestion: Look for opportunities to partner with other organizations in some capacity, even loosely, because the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) funds being sought are competitive among projects across the city.

5:35 PM – State Equity Office Overview

This project just began; the first meeting took place August 2019. Created through a proviso in the state's operating budget. The Task Force is purposed to develop a proposal for development of a state Office of Equity. Both parties are represented on this task force with a preliminary report due to the Governor in early December. A final proposal due is July 1, 2020. The general structure and estimate of an operating budget for this proposed office is to be included in the December report. The purpose of the new office is to promote access to equitable opportunities and to resources that reduce disparities including racial and ethnic disparities, and improve outcomes statewide across all sectors of government. The Task Force will define 'equity' and make recommendations for:

- Mechanisms of accountability
- A plan to engage executive-level management throughout all state agencies
- The general organizational structure and operational budget for the agency
- How to promote community outreach and engagement
- How the state can establish standards for the collection, reporting and analysis of disaggregated data

The Task Force would guide enterprise-wide efforts through a common vision around equity and serve as a conduit; agency-to-agency and state government-to-community.

Commission: Does the task force recognize the possible disruption that true equity will have and the perception or reality that some communities may lose advantages they have had over time?

Task Force: The Task Force has incorporated this idea into its operating principles. One being its Commitment to Bold Action: *Eliminating oppression and racism requires revolutionary change. We commit to using our authority we have and our collective influence to propose changes that disrupt and dismantle historical systems of institutional racism and oppression.*

The Task Force is able to say very candidly what their position is and it may be tougher for state government to navigate. However, as a priority for the state, it offers consistent messaging across the enterprise. Some agencies are leading in the work, while others are behind possibly due to capacity or willingness.

Task Force members are discussing the need representation from the other parts of the state. There is the potential for an Eastern Washington ombudsman. Communities of color in Yakima, Tri-Cities and Spokane need attention.

The Task Force consulted with the King County Office of Equity & Inclusion and asked about their challenges in beginning their equity. One challenge shared was the breaking down silos that exist and the culture change employees had to make.

6:15PM – Public Comment

6:25 PM – Election of New Chair

Commissioner Will Howard elected as commission chairperson.

6:40 PM – Adjournment