

**Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Regular Meeting
September 7, 2016**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission convened on September 7, 2016 in Room 4080 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue. Commission Chair Eileen Norton called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Commissioners Charlene Angeles, Bruce Carter, Vickie Rawlins and Hardeep Singh Rekhi were in attendance, and Commissioner Brendan Donckers joined the meeting by telephone for approximately 20 minutes. (He did not participate in any votes.) Commissioner Alexandra McKay was absent. Executive Director Wayne Barnett and staff members Kate Flack, Polly Grow, Rene LeBeau, Marc Mayo, Jenna Smith and Annie Tran were present. Assistant City Attorney Jeff Slayton was also in attendance.

1) Public Comment

John King made public comment calling for the abolition of public office funds. Queen Pearl made public comment about discrimination in City Council chambers.

Action Items

2) Appeal of Dismissal in Case No. 16-1-0714-1 (cont'd)

The Chair and Commissioner Carter both noted that they had watched the video of the August 3 meeting where the appeal was first presented.

The Chair asked Craig Keller to speak to his appeal. Mr. Keller renewed his case that the dismissal was premature, and that the library should be held accountable for violating the Elections Code.

The Chair then turned to the Director and gave him an opportunity to explain his dismissal. She asked him how the Library's involvement in the forum prior to the execution of

the lease did not violate the Elections Code. She said she struggled with the late hour at which the library got advice from Commission staff, and the amount of work the Library had already done on the forum.

Commissioner Angeles said that she wanted additional detail on how much library staff time and resources were expended on promoting the forum.

The Executive Director called a twenty-minute executive session to discuss the appeal.

Following the executive session, Commissioner Angeles made a motion to reconsider the Director's dismissal and to direct staff to conduct further investigation. Commissioner Carter seconded the motion. The vote was four in favor of the motion (Commissioners Angeles, Carter, Norton, and Rawlins) and one opposed (Commissioner Rekhi).

Discussion Items

3) I-122 status report

Rene LeBeau told the Commission that the staff had chosen a technology vendor to build the democracy voucher platform. She then updated the Commission on the status of the print and mailing contract. She said the plan was still to send out an informational mailer at the start of December and that staff was on target to meet the January 3 deadline for mailing vouchers. She also said that staff had identified a contractor to translate key program documents.

Commissioner Carter asked whether the program was still under budget and Ms. LeBeau confirmed that it was.

Jenna Smith updated the Commission on the status of the outreach effort to ensure awareness of the democracy voucher program. Commissioner Rawlins asked for a copy of the outreach plan once it was finalized.

4) Executive Director's report

The Director introduced Jhileah Jackson as the temporary staff assistant. He said that he and the Chair were meeting with Councilmember Burgess to discuss his objections to the legislation that the Commission had sent to Council in the spring. He reported that the Commission's 2017 budget was on track and that there did not appear to be any surprises.

The Regular Commission meeting for September 7, adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

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