

HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION
Minutes Commission Regular Meeting
March 25, 2025

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Commissioners Gildas Cheung, Kobey Sage Chew.

Commissioner Cristian Liu joined at 7:14pm. Commissioner Jory Hamilton joined at 7:38pm.
Commissioner Melantha Jenkins joined at 7:46pm.

Absent: Chair Gabriela Lopez-Vazquez

Staff Present: Human Services Manager Jen Boone and Human Services Coordinator
Anny Smith

Meeting Recorder: Youth Services Coordinator Regi Schubiger

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Commissioner Gildas Cheung read the land acknowledgment. Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew will read for the April meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan requested a motion to approve the February 25, 2024 minutes. Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew motioned for approval. Commissioner Jory Hamilton seconded. Motion carried (Yes: 4 No: 0 Abstention: 1).

5. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

a. 2024 Agency Performance Review

The Human Services Commission received a presentation and overview of human services agency program performance during 2024.

b. The Impact of Changing Policies on Immigrants and Refugees Panel Introduction

Human Services Coordinator Anny Smith shared information in preparation for the presentation focused on the impact of changing policies on immigrants and refugees panel discussion scheduled for the April 22, 2025, regular Commission meeting.

c. Behind the Scenes Series: The Reporting and Payment Process

The business item was postponed to a future Commission meeting.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

a. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Gildas Cheung went to Olympia to advocate for Community Health Centers needs January. Commissioner Cheung also shared that he is stepping down from the Commission.

Commissioner Cristian Liu shared accolades for the latest Recreation Guide.

Commissioner Kobey Sage Chew watched a NAMI forum on eating disorders.

Commissioner Jory Hamilton shared an op-ed letter from Kurt Triplett on the permanent supportive housing project in Kirkland.

Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan shared information about the upcoming NAMI Youth Mental Health conference this weekend and some highlights on youth mental health and resources available.

Commissioner Melantha Jenkins shared some parting thoughts, appreciation, and good-byes with the group as she did seek re-appointment to the Commission.

b. Staff Reports & Announcements

Human Services Manager Jen Boone shared that there are four Commission positions that need to be filled. Commissioner Jory Hamilton was reappointed as was Chair Gabriela Lopez-Vazquez.

Staff would like to have new commissioners paired with current member to serve in a supportive resource role which will be known as the Onboarding Buddy program. Volunteers to support the incoming Commission appointees in April are Chair Gaby Lopez Vazquez, Vice Chair Sri Rajagopalan and Commissioner Kobey Chew.

Human Services Manager Jen Boone also shared that Kerry Lam joined the Human Services team for the part-time Office Specialist position.

Human Services Coordinator Anny Smith shared information on a Hopelink meeting on March 28th that focused on disability services and resources. She also shared a message from CISC recapping their first meeting of their Russian speaking Seniors group at the Peter Kirk Community Center.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Sriram Rajagopalan asked for a motion to adjourn meeting. Commissioner Gildas Cheung motioned and was seconded by Commissioner Melantha Jenkins. Meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.