

**CITY OF KIRKLAND  
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION  
Minutes Commission Regular Meeting  
September 26, 2023**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Gabriela Lopez Vazquez called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Commissioners Melantha Jenkins, Jonathan Stutz, Sriram Rajagopalan, Cristian Liu, and Gildas Cheung.

Commissioner Chloe Sow joined at 6:34pm. Chair Jory Hamilton joined at 6:36pm.  
Staff Present: Lynn Zwaagstra, Director, Jen Boone Human Services Manager; Antoinette Smith, Human Services Coordinator, Amanda Judd, Human Services Coordinator  
Meeting Recorder: Regi Schubiger, Youth Services Coordinator

**3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Commissioner Christian Liu read land acknowledgement. Commissioner Melantha Jenkins will read the acknowledgment at the October meeting.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair Gabriela Lopez Vazquez requested a motion to approve the August 22, 2023 minutes. Commissioner Jonathan Stutz indicated a misspelling of Chair Jory Hamilton's name in the minutes. Commissioner Melantha Jenkins made a motion for approval with the spelling correction. Commissioner Cristian Liu seconded. Motion carried (Yes: 8 No: 0).

**5. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None

**6. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

a. History of Exclusion on the Eastside  
Human Services Commission (HSC) receive the presentation "History of Exclusion on the Eastside" from Guillermo Rivera of Eastside for All, Brady Nordstrom from Futurewise, and Chris Randels from Complete Streets Bellevue staff to learn about how structural racism continues to impact Eastside communities.

**7. BUSINESS**

a. Opioid Funding Recommendations  
Human Services Manager Jen Boone shared staff recommendations on allocating the City's opioid settlement funds.

b. ARPA Funding Recommendations

Human Services Manager shared the Commission staff recommendations on allocating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.

c. Joint Meeting with City Council

Commissioners were tasked with finalizing topics for discussion in advance of the joint meeting with City Council next month.

**8. COMMUNICATIONS**

a. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Sri Rajagopalan attended the health fair – big take aways; affordable housing, eviction, rental assistance is just a band-aid; agencies don't have time to get data because they are busy providing services. Posed question on how to address such gap.

b. Staff Reports

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Jory Hamilton requested a motion to adjourn. Moved by Commissioner Sri Rajagopalan and seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Stutz. Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 pm.