



City of Bellingham
Immigration Advisory Board Meeting
July 23, 2020, 6:30 PM

ATTACHMENT #1

Note: **[Time stamps]** indicates the time in which each section/discussion can be listened to in the [meeting audio](#).

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Council Member Hannah Stone at 6:32 PM.

Welcome

Council Member Hannah Stone provided a brief welcome.

Board Member Introductions [1:30]

Each Board member provided a brief introduction.

Present:

Monika Cassidy
Maria Isabel Cortes-Zamora
Ada Rumford
Jahn Zuniga Escobar
Liz Darrow
Katie Winkelman
Danielle Siedlecki
Rick Qualls
Bridget Reeves

Absent:

Rev. Seth Thomas
Ramon Barba Torres

Review/Approval of Agenda [19:26]

The Board decided to host a public comment period at the beginning and end of this meeting. No other changes were made to the agenda.

Review/Approval of Minutes [20:55]

The minutes provide a general outline of discussions for an overview of each meeting. Community members are encouraged to listen to the meeting audio to understand discussions in depth.

The Board approved the June 23, 2020 minutes as submitted.

Public Comment Period [23:07]

The Board decided to allow community members to provide public comment with no time constraint within reason. Community members can provide anonymous comment if they wish. The Board emphasized having access to civic engagement by allowing community members to send in written public comment.

Board Set-Up [38:55]

1. Meeting Schedule

The first or third Tuesday of the month works well for members of the Board as a standing meeting moving forward.

2. Board suggestions regarding organizational and decision-making structure [39:40]

Consensus-based problem solving was posed as a suggestion for the Board to consider. The Board discussed this decision-making structure and decided to move forward with a non-hierarchical consensus-based approach.

The following document was shared amongst Board members as a starting off point for this discussion: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ooV0vHdKyaiyMEV4ZDQL5-7ix3YfvmkG9e9TJL1ZiO4/edit>

3. Leadership Positions [54:15]

Each Board member will provide leadership equally and rotate responsibility as the facilitator of each meeting, with 1-year term members facilitating first.

4. Need for Open Public Meetings Act training [57:35]

The Board can collectively work through the Open Public Meetings Act training or do so individually when each member has time. The Board decided to do the training on their own and bring any questions to the group. If Board members want extra support, there will be an opportunity to discuss the content of the training as a group. The requirement must be completed within 90 days of the first Board meeting.

5. Interpretation/Translation Services [1:01:12]

The Board discussed interpretation/translation services, emphasizing the following needs:

- Interpretation to ensure that Board members can participate effectively
- Interpretation to ensure that members of the public can speak and be heard at public comment periods
- Interpretation so that members of the public can listen/understand during the meeting and in the recorded audio
- Translation of documents produced by the Board and brought to City Council

6. Board Background [1:05:45]

Liz Darrow spoke about the work that led to the creation of the Immigration Advisory Board, which was a four-year long process.

7. Reallocation of Funds [1:12:00]

The Board discussed reallocation of funds from the Police and the role the Board could play in this community conversation.

Federal Contacts Review [1:32:08]

1. July Report – Discussions and Questions about Data Collection

The July Federal Contacts Report was discussed. More information on the data was requested and the Board will compile a list of questions to present to the COB staff and/or City Council as appropriate. The need for public accessibility to this information was emphasized.

Public Comment [1:54:11]

Public comment was taken. Written public comments were spoken into the record.

Old/New Business

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

The next Immigration Advisory Board meeting is August 18, 2020 at 6:30 PM.