



# City of Tacoma Community Vitality and Safety Committee Minutes

747 Market Street Tacoma, WA 98402

Conference Room 248

February 14, 2019

4:30 PM

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Chair Keith Blocker, Vice Chair Catherine Ushka,  
Chris Beale, Robert Thoms, Lillian Hunter (alternate)

## Call To Order

Chair Blocker called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

**Present:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

## Approval of Minutes

1. [19-0137](#) Approval of the Minutes of the January 24, 2019 Meeting

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2019 meeting.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

## Briefing Items

2. [19-0138](#) Human Rights Commission Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 4:33 p.m., Doris Sorum, City Clerk, stated the Committee will be interviewing seven applicants for the Human Rights Commission (HRC) and reviewing written responses provided by Ayanna Colman, Julien Pollard, and Julie Tran, who were unable to attend the interviews due to prior engagements; and further stated Rachel Dehn was also unable to attend the interviews. She concluded by informing the Committee that

Carol Mitchell is interested in being considered for both the HRC and the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority (TCRA), and provided information regarding the open positions on the HRC.

The Committee interviewed Ronita Boult, Rosita Castellano, William Lobato, Taniesha Lyons, Carol Mitchell, Sarah Nunez, and Sarah Rumbaugh.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding current vacancies on the Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities and the applicant interested in being considered for both the HRC and TCRA. Discussion concluded on inclusion of representation from the Asian community on the HRC, demographics of the HRC, the number of vacancies on the HRC, and applicants' qualifications.

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Julie Tran to the Human Rights Commission to serve a three-year term to expire February 28, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Sarah Rumbaugh to the Human Rights Commission to serve a three-year term to expire February 28, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

**19-0138**

Human Rights Commission Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Sarah Nunez to the Human Rights Commission to serve a three-year term to expire February 28, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Carol Mitchell to the Human Rights Commission to serve a three-year term to expire February 28, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Rosita Castellano to the Human Rights Commission to fill an unexpired term to expire February 29, 2020.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

[19-0138](#)

Human Rights Commission Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Ronita Boulton to the Human Rights Commission to fill an unexpired term to expire February 28, 2021.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Taniesha Lyons to the Human Rights Commission to serve a three-year term to expire February 28, 2022.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Thoms.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 4 - Beale, Blocker, Thoms and Ushka

3. [19-0139](#)

Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Interviews  
[Doris Sorum, City Clerk]

At approximately 5:24 p.m., Ms. Sorum stated the Committee will be interviewing three applicants for the TCRA and provided information regarding vacancies on the Authority. She reminded the Committee that Carol Mitchell was interviewed and recommended for appointment to the HRC.

Daniel Murillo, Housing Division Manager, Community and Economic Development (CED), provided information regarding background and responsibilities of the TCRA. Carol Hassard, Contract and Program Auditor, CED, further provided details on the vacant designations and the qualifications of each applicant.

Discussion ensued throughout regarding responsibilities of the TCRA, demographics of TCRA, the idea of extending the interviews and accepting additional applications, outreach, applicants' qualifications, and vacant designations on the TCRA.

The Committee interviewed Debra Goodrich, Shawn Lund, and Tera Williams.

Discussion concluded on Tera Williams' association with the Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) and if it would be a conflict of interest, how frequent Ms. Williams would need to recuse herself because of work the TCRA does with the THA, and concerns.

**MOTION: Council Member Ushka moved to recommend the appointment of Tera Williams to the "At-Large" designation on the Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority Board to serve a two-year term to expire February 28, 2021.**

**SECONDED BY: Council Member Beale.**

**ACTION: Voice vote was taken and carried. The motion was declared adopted.**

**Ayes:** 3 - Beale, Blocker and Ushka

**Absent:** 1 - Thoms

## Topics for Upcoming Meetings

4. [19-0140](#) February 28, 2019 - Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Interviews and 2019 Tacoma Gang Assessment

March 14, 2019 - Library Board of Trustees Annual Report, and Neighborhood and Community Services Pilot Project

William Suarez, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on February 28, 2019, and will include Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs interviews and a presentation on the 2019 Tacoma gang assessment. He further stated the meeting on March 14, 2019 will include presentations on the Library Board of Trustees Annual Report and Neighborhood and Community Services pilot project.

## Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

## **Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.

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Keith Blocker, Chair

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Jessica Jenkins, City Clerk's Office