



City of Tacoma

Community Vitality and Safety

Committee Minutes

747 Market Street, Tacoma, WA 98402, Conference Room 248
Dial: 253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 859 6160 4917
Webinar Link: www.zoom.us/j/85961604917 Passcode: 614650

April 11, 2024

4:30 PM

Chair Catherine Ushka, Vice Chair Sarah Rumbaugh, Jamika Scott,
Kristina Walker, John Hines (alternate)

Call To Order

Vice Chair Rumbaugh called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

Deputy Mayor Hines participated virtually.

Public Comment

Public comment was heard from:

1. April Smith, regarding Neighborhood Council.

Approval of Minutes

1. [24-0385](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, July 27, 2023.
2. [24-0386](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, August 24, 2023.
3. [24-0387](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, September 14, 2023.
4. [24-0388](#) Minutes of the Community Vitality and Safety Committee, September 28, 2023.

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2023, through September 28, 2023, meetings.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 4 - Rumbaugh, Walker, Scott and Hines

Absent: 1 - Ushka

Briefing Items

5. [24-0380](#) Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Interviews
[Nicole Emery, City Clerk]

At approximately 4:35 p.m., Susan Haigh, Deputy City Clerk, informed the Committee that they would be interviewing seven applicants for the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, and will be considering two commissioners for reappointment.

The Committee interviewed Iuliia Didkivska, Candida (Lucia) Guerrero Flores, Linus Nyaga, Olga Piddubna, Eunice T. Ngwasi kalembo, Nixon Tenga, and Emmanuella Shasha.

Discussion ensued regarding the applicants' qualifications.

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved recommend the reappointment of Maurice Lekea to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to serve a three-year term, retroactive to April 1, 2024, to expire March 31, 2027.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to recommend the reappointment of Samantha Le to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to serve a three-year term, retroactive to April 1, 2024, to expire March 31, 2027.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to recommend the appointment of Nixon Tenga to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to fill an unexpired term, to expire March 31, 2027.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to recommend the appointment of Linus Nyaga to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to fill an unexpired term, to expire March 31, 2027.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to recommend the appointment of Iuliia Didkivska to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to fill an unexpired term, to expire March 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to recommend the appointment of Emmanuella Shasha to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to fill an unexpired term, to expire March 31, 2026.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

MOTION: Council Member Scott moved to recommend the appointment of Eunice T. Ngwasi kalembo to the Commission on Immigrant and Refugee Affairs to fill an unexpired term, to expire March 31, 2025.

SECONDED BY: Deputy Mayor Hines.

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

Ayes: 3 - Rumbaugh, Scott and Hines

Absent: 2 - Ushka and Walker

6. [24-0381](#) Neighborhood Council Program - Standards, Guidelines, and Tacoma Municipal Code 1.45 Review
[Keegan Buckley, Community Resources Analyst, Neighborhood and Community Services]

At approximately 5:42 p.m., Vicky McLaurin, Division Manager, Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS), introduced Keegan Buckley, Community Resources Analyst, NCS, and Andrea Haug, Chair, Community Council. Together, they presented the Neighborhood Council program standards and guidelines, Tacoma Municipal Code 1.45 review, including history, noting grassroots, pride, and responsibility; intent of review, noting attention to the program, diversity, and empowerment to the community; and timeline.

Discussion ensued regarding meeting places and technology issues.

Topics for Upcoming Meetings

7. [24-0382](#)
- | | |
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| April 25, 2024 - | Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder
Sales Tax Assessment;
Issue Statement for the 2025-2026 Competitive
Funding Process |
| May 9, 2024 - | Human Services Commission Interviews;
Tacoma Municipal Code 8.30 Compliance Review |
| May 23, 2024 - | Anti-Displacement Strategy Update;
Youth and Young Adult Violence Reduction Update |

D'Angelo Baker, Committee Liaison, stated the next meeting will be on April 25, 2024, and will include the mental health and substance use disorder sales tax assessment, and the issue statement for the 2025-2026 competitive funding process; the May 9, 2024, meeting will include the Human Services Commission interviews, and the Tacoma Municipal Code 8.30 compliance review; and the May 23, 2024, meeting will include the anti-displacement strategy update, and the youth and young adult violence reduction update.

Other Items of Interest

There were no other items of interest.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Catherine Ushka, Chair

Hollyann Piotrowski, City Clerk's Office