



Commission on African American Affairs Public Meeting Minutes Friday, January 28, 2022 | 3:30 pm - 5:30 p.m. via Zoom

Commissioner Dorian Waller, Chair
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Rev. Walter Kendricks,
Vice Chair
Representing Eastern Washington

Commissioner Andrea Caupain
Representing King County

Commissioner Michael Bailey
Representing King County

Commissioner LeRoy Laney III
Representing King County

Commissioner Joseph Todd
Representing South King County

Commissioner Zellynda Perkins
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Yolanda Geolingo
Representing Thurston County

Executive Director Edward O. Prince

Members present: Chair Waller, Vice-chair Kendricks, Quinn, Franklin-Phillips, Bailey, Perkins, Todd, Laney, Geolingo, Executive Director Edward Prince, Program Manager Charlotte Kerney, Executive Assistant Keahna Umpstead

Absent: Caupain-Sanderson

3:43 pm – Meeting called to order by Chairperson Waller

3:45 – Director Report – Executive Director Ed Prince

Restarted Quarterly Meetings with the Leadership at Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

- Discussed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program (DBE) participation numbers within both of their state and federal projects.
- Shows that DBE numbers on a federal level are more robust than the state numbers.
- Working on getting the state DBE participation up.

Facilitated meeting with Gov. Inslee and Leaders of King County Black Community

- Governor Inslee announces that he was resending governor Locks executive order 98-01 to be replaced by executive orders 22-01 and 22-02.
- 22-01 instructs state agencies to adopt more inclusive practices of contracting and procurement.
- 22-02 instructs executive and small agencies to adopt the Washington State tools for public spending within 6 months of adoption of the order.

Washington Future Fund:

- Previously known as the Baby Bonds Bill
- Would allocate \$3200 for any child born under Apple Health.
- Funds would be accessible from the child's 18th-30th birthdays
- Funds could be used to go to school, purchase property, start a business.
- Funds must be used in Washington State.

Began work with the State Digital Equity Workshop

- Hosted by the State Department of Commerce

Bills Director Prince is following this Legislative Session

- HB 2037
- HB 2022
- SB 5597
- HB 1507
- HB 1861/ SB 8752
- HB 1735

3:55 pm – Roll call by Executive Assistant Keahna Umpstead

3:55 pm – **Quorum Established**

3:56 pm – **Motion to approve previous meeting minutes by Chair Waller**

Motion to accept meeting minutes by Commissioner Quinn – Motion seconded by Commissioner Kendrick.

Chairperson Waller called for vote to accept November 2021 Meeting Minutes

Voice vote – no objections. Motion carried. November 2021 commission meeting minutes approved.

3:58 pm – **Election of Commission Vice-chair**

Motion to accept Commissioner Kendrick as Vice-chair by Commissioner Franklin-Phillips – Motion seconded by Commissioner Laney.

4pm - **Chairperson Waller called for vote to elect Commissioner Kendrick as Vice-chair.**

Voice vote – no objections or abstentions. Motion carried. Commissioner Kendrick elected Commission Vice-chair.

4:01 pm – **Presentation from the Educational and Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee (EOGOAC) by Maria Flores, Executive Director, Center of the Improvement of Student Learning.**

- Committee developed after the achievement gap studies done in 2008, convincing legislators that an opportunity gap truly existed in WA State.
- Established in 2009, and began as the “Achievement gap Committee”, with the objective to close the K-12 opportunity gap for students of color in WA.
- Composed of Community Members and Legislatures.
- Broad categories of what the committee makes recommendations on:
 - Family and Community Engagement
 - Educator cultural competence
 - Increasing the educator workforce of color
 - Programs that narrow opportunity gaps
 - Data elements to monitor progress
 - School and school district improvement processes
 - Innovative school models
- Major changes and recommendations made to the school system in the following areas:

- Complete reform of school discipline is WA State to disrupt the school to prison pipeline.
- All requirements around suspensions and expulsions. Schools in WA state no longer allowed indefinite expulsion.
- Funding and implementation for English language learners
- Developed a family engagement model for the state.
- Created the integrated student support services.
- Created social and emotional learning standards.
- Committee hoping to get backing from other ethnic committees including CAAA to lobby for funding to conduct another opportunity gap study. To Help show the progress that has been made since 2008, but also the work that still needs to be done.

Discussion – Commissioner Quinn, Vice-chair Kendricks, and Chairperson Waller all comment on support of EOGOAC’s efforts for updated research.

Commissioner Todd – Maria – What are some specific areas where you all are seeing through data gaps between African American vs. white student?

Maria Flores - Some big places where we see these gaps through data are in student discipline, participation in AP (Advanced Placement), Honors and highly capable classes and beginning to see in the choices of career pathways now that graduation requirements have changed throughout the State.

4:51pm – Presentation from Max Brown, Program Manager at the Washington Resilience Group.

- The Washington Resilience Group was formed in October of 2020. With the purpose of identifying and fixing the flaws within the contact system for government agencies through a social equity lens.
- Looking to partner with local community partners to get a better sense of the experiences of communities throughout Washington.
- Goal is to report to the Governor’s office in May with advice on what needs to be tackled in the next Legislative session, to fix the problems that come when individuals try to access state services.

5:13pm- Commissioner Goals for 2022.

- The need to push and engage strategically to make change and solidify change for the black community.

5:20pm – Farewell to parting Commissioners Quinn and Franklin Phillips

5:30pm – Public comment

Zoom audience. No public comment.

5:33pm – Meeting adjourned

