



Commission Chair Franklin Donahoe
Representing Snohomish County

Commissioner Sara Franklin
Representing South King County

Commissioner De'Sean Quinn
Representing South King County

Commissioner Sheila Reed Trahan
Representing Tri-Cities

Commissioner Dr. James Smith
Representing King County

Commissioner Dorian Waller
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Andrea Caupain
Representing King County

Commissioner Will Howard
Representing Pierce County

Executive Director Edward O. Prince

Public Meeting Commission on African American Affairs

Friday, January 11, 2019

Evergreen State College, 1210 – 6th Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Members present: Chair Donahoe, Commissioners Howard, Franklin-Phillips, Quinn, Smith, Executive Director Edward Prince and Executive Assistant Charlotte Kerney. Quorum established

Absent: Commissioners Caupain, Reed-Trahan and Waller

1:00 PM - Meeting called to order

1:35 PM - Motion to accept previous meeting minutes as written. No discussion. Motion passed.

1:40 PM - Black Women's Policy Summit Recap by Executive Director Edward Prince

1:45 PM

- **Update on Initiative 940.** Commissioner Quinn continues to work on the issue of. The Training Commission is responsible for the rule-making portion mandated by I-940. Suggests the commission continue to convey the context needed in guide the rulemaking process and what it means for our community. It is a new way of doing business for the police across the state – their way of communicating with the public now drastically changed by the new law. Commissioner Quinn suggests the Commission assist law enforcement on the best way of conveying a message/create spaces for voices to be heard considering the sensitive subjects of use of deadly force, equity training and de-escalation techniques. Recommended rule changes are due within six months.
- Proposed statewide Black Student Union meeting sponsored by the Commission to share critical information. Creation of a junior commission as an idea in developing young Black leaders.
- Discussion re: getting the Commission better connected with the community. Making sure what we do is relevant, helpful within the community, proactive and how we partner with organizations within the community.

1:50 PM – CAAA Research Brief

G3 and Associates conducting a survey by request of the Commission. This snapshot gathers community opinion from Black churches and other groups. Initially, thirty different organizations identified. Combined, 200 surveys are completed. Expectation is an additional 400 surveys over the next month. Eastern Washington outreach is underway. Preliminary examination reveals comments about the repeal of I-200 through proposed I-1000. Chair Donahoe hopes the research is used as a tool/heat map to assist lawmakers. The perception is the Commission is the change agent for Black folks across the state and addressing issues in any way to make it happen. They see the Commission as the biggest player in the state. Will include a sense of where the feedback is coming from. The survey to be shared with entities other than just Black churches. The recommendations may need follow-up.

2:00 PM - Deputy Director Children's Alliance John Gould

A public policy advocacy organization with a racial equity screen. Agenda is not specific to the African American community in Washington state but cognizant of prioritization of racial equity and aims to improve the well-being of all families and preserve the history, culture and assets of families.

Partnered with the National Black Child Development Institute in their assessment of the state of Black children in Washington state. Universal access to pre-school for 3-4 year olds would be very beneficial in closing the achievement gap. Washington is one of the worse states regarding access to preschool. The Early Childhood Assistance program does not serve all those who qualify. It is unattainable for those 200-300% below the poverty level. Long waiting lists and restrictive income for those to qualify and Households earning minimum wage make too much money. Bill would expand eligibility to make some families categorically eligible and a certain portion of these categories would receive an entitlement.

Children's Alliance also looks to increase the number of teachers by raising pay. Preschool teachers do not have representation by a union. A 43% turnover by preschool teachers annually. Seeks to increase preschool teacher diversity through the Division of Children, Families and Youth (DCFY) instead of legislation.

3:00 PM – Hepatitis B Presentation, Nadine Shiroma & Mohammed Abdu-kadir

Reports that Hepatitis B is on the rise and not as addressed in the African and African American community. The organization also tackles the issue of Hepatitis B from a civil rights perspective as the disease was being used to discriminatory exclusionary practices by institutions including college admissions. Anti-viral medication and a vaccine is now readily available to decrease the spread. Hepatitis C usually gets the attention, making a Hepatitis B a health disparity. Adult viral Hepatitis, for both B and C, are underfunded. King County has 50% of the cases of Hepatitis B and leads in the number of cases per 100,000. Most foreign-born are not vaccinated at birth as native-born Americans are. Asking for expansion of the Governor's Directive for Hepatitis C to include Hepatitis B and the Commission assist with awareness of Hepatitis B and the request to the governor.

www.hepb.org/assets/Uploads/JustBDiscussionGuide-2018-12-2.pdf

3:30 PM – Public Comment

Charles Wilson with Washington State Department of Enterprise Services is asking for assistance in locating African American companies/firms to ensure an equitable spend of public works dollars. DES is Already developing a statewide outreach program. The Statewide Disparity Study results to be released February 2019

4:00 PM - Adjournment