



MINUTES OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY
Snohomish County Children’s Commission



June 26, 2019
Snohomish County Children’s Commission Meeting
4:30 – 6:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The 2019 Snohomish County Children’s Commission meeting was held at The Snohomish County Government Building, Everett, Washington on Wednesday June 26, 2019. The meeting convened at 4:35 p.m. with Desmond Pullen presiding.

Commissioners		County Staff		Guests	
Desmond Pullen	✓	Karen Matson	✓	Susan Neely	✓
Karen O’Meara Pullen	✓	Ana Carratala	✓		
Nancy Mickels	AB	Bambie Fontana	✓		
Shannon Smith	✓				
Kristen Anderson	EX				
Mary Fischer	EX				
Anita Shad	✓				
Jerry Strieck	EX				
Charlotte Zissel	✓				
Courtney Wooten	EX				
Argelia Grassfield	✓				
Keith Smith	✓				
Lindee Tollefsen	✓				
Karen McKeen	✓				

Welcome to All

Introductions were made around the room.

- Desmond Pullen introduced Susan Neely from the County Executive’s Office.
- Desmond Pullen shared his thoughts regarding a book he read “*Short Night of the Shadow Catcher*” by Timothy Egan which chronicles the work of Edward Curtis. Curtis spent many years photographing and observing First Nations people.
- Shannon Smith mentioned their organization (PCAP) is hosting a fund-raiser on July 19, 2019 at the Everett Theater. 100% of the proceeds goes toward purchasing a house for homeless women.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 24, 2019 and May 29, 2019

- ACTION ITEM.** Desmond Pullen made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2019 and May 29, 2019 Snohomish County Children’s Commission meeting as written. Motion passed.

Updates – Karen Matson

- Karen Matson spoke about *Handout #1 Kids Count in Snohomish County* and gave a brief overview. Kelsey Bang-Olsen is still working on editing the graphics, wording, and design.

Welcome Guest – Desmond Pullen

- + Karen Matson thanked Susan Neely for attending today's meeting and showing interest in the Snohomish County Children's Commission and their vision.
- + Susan Neely is the Executive Director for Executive Dave Somers. Susan Neely gave a brief overview on her work and her role with Snohomish County. Susan Neely expressed her interest in the Snohomish County Children's Commission work and is open to all questions.
- + Susan Neely stated her belief that the Commission does have a role in providing information to the County Council, to support their work to make the best decisions for Snohomish County. She believes that information, like that presented in the handout, has the potential to inform many of the decisions and actions made by the County.
- + Susan Neely mentioned the "PASTA" money (This is from the Excise Tax – Car tabs increase) which is distributed to Pierce, part of Snohomish and King County. This money can only be used in the RTA areas and is intended to impact education outcomes. Susan Neely also discussed funding related to affordable housing and shelter.
- + Karen Matson gave a brief explanation to all Commissioners regarding the Chain of Command when dealing with Snohomish County Executive Office, Council Members and County Staff.

Old Business

Committee Work – Charlotte Zissel

- + Anita Shad mentioned the presentation for the We Value Kids for Kids Award went well and was well received by the School.
- + Charlotte Zissel spoke about *Handout #2 Kids Count 2019 book*.
- + Karen Matson spoke about *Handout #3 Low Income Community Needs Assessment booklet*.

Website – Bambie Fontana

- + Bambie Fontana gave status on website; it is still pending.

New Business

New Officers – Charlotte Zissel

- + Charlotte Zissel spoke about the appointment of new Officers, including Chair and Vice-Chair positions which are done every year. Desmond Pullen has served his second-term and will be stepping down and Charlotte Zissel will be moving into the Chair role. The Vice-Chair position will be open. In July nominations and voting will take place and the new officers will take their role at the September Retreat.
- + Charlotte Zissel will be sending out an email with all this information.

Retreat – Desmond Pullen

- ✚ Desmond Pullen mentioned the Executive Committee will meet in July to discuss the Retreat and create the agenda. The retreat is scheduled for 4th Wednesday of September; the retreat usually runs 3 – 4 hours. Location is still TBD.

Land Acknowledgement – Desmond Pullen

- ✚ Desmond Pullen gave a brief overview on Land Acknowledgement – (Indigenous Land) explaining that is a practice of recognizing the indigenous community and ties to the land where a meeting or event is taking place. Many groups as Commissions, Boards practice a statement before their meeting.
- ✚ Desmond Pullen proposes this saying ***“As we gather we are minded that ever we are situated on land that is steep in rich indigenous history and home to many first nation people today, as a city we have a responsibility for the stewardship of the land which we live and work. Today we acknowledge the Snohomish people of the first nations on who traditional territory we are meeting”*** be read before every meeting.
- ✚ Keith Smith commented he agrees with the acknowledgment of remembering the first nation people.
- ✚ Karen Matson gave a brief overview on the goals for July’s meeting including feedback on a final draft of the Kid’s Count Report and recommendations for the County’s policy agenda.

Data Work – Charlotte Zissel

Kids Count Indicators – Review Strategic Plan and Committee work

Domain Groups:

Economic Well-Being: Karen O’Meara Pullen, Jerry Strieck and Argelia Grassfield

Education: Courtney Wooten, Mary Fischer and Kristen Anderson

Health: Charlotte Zissel, Anita Shad, Nancy Mickels and Lindee Tollefsen

Family and Community: Shannon Smith, Desmond Pullen and Keith Smith


- ✚ Charlotte Zissel discussed the need for domain groups to focus on understanding in depth, the content of their domain. For example, why it is important, what does it mean, what does it include, etc.
- ✚ Karen Matson facilitated a 5 minute practice session. The group picked a topic and brainstormed questions related to better understanding the domain.

Wrap-up and Announcements

- ✚ Desmond Pullen reminded all that the Chair/Vice Chair meeting is on Monday, July 8, 2019. The Executive Committee meeting is on Monday, July 15, 2019 from 5:15 – 6:45PM at Everett Public Schools Community Resource Center.

Announcements – REMINDER NOTICE

- ✚ ***Beginning June 26, 2019 all Snohomish County Children’s Commission Meetings will be held at the Robert J. Drewell Administration Building (Snohomish County Government Bldg.) 6th Floor, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue Everett, WA 98201***

 **ACTION ITEM.** *Charlotte Zissel made a motion to adjourn the Snohomish County Children's Commission meeting. Argelia Grassfield second the motion. Motion passed.*

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

*****The next Snohomish County Children's Commission meeting will be on Wednesday, July 31, 2019 at 4:30 p.m., at the Snohomish County Government Building, 6th Floor - Room 6A04. **** THERE IS NO AUGUST MEETING*******