

CITY OF ISSAQUAH
Human Services Commission

6:30 PM
 April 16, 2025

Steelhead Room and The
 Garage, 235 1st Ave. SE,
 Issaquah

MINUTES

COMMISSION AND ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL PRESENT

Commissioners:

Jaime Fajardo, *Chair, virtual attendance*
 arrived at 7:09 pm

Trish Bloor

Manny Brown

Maury Edwards, *excused absence*

Madeline Fish

Huma Mohibullah, *excused absence*

Lucrecia Choto, *virtual attendance*

Preston Miele, *youth representative*

Administration/Staff:

Hannah Roberts, Human Services
 Coordinator

Guest Speakers:

Kaylee Jaech, The Garage, Executive
 Director

Erin Longchari, The Garage, Development
 Director

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Vice Chair BROWN called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and the commission walked next door for a site visit at the Garage.

SITE VISIT

6:35 - 7:00 PM - The Garage, A Teen Cafe: 235 1st Ave SE Issaquah, WA 98027

Commissioners did a site visit at human services non-profit organizations The Garage to meet with the Executive Director Kaylee Jaech and the Development Director Erin Longchari. During the site visit commissioners were able to view the facilities and learned the design of The Garage was designed by students for students. Kaylee and Erin discussed the history, services offered, policies and procedures, events, successes and current challenges. The site visit concluded at 7:04 PM and the commissioners walked back to the regular meeting location to resume the meeting and start the hybrid option.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

Hybrid meeting started at 7:09 pm

Public Comment

Written comment presented by Human Services Staff from the Executive Director, Axton Burton (they/them) from Pride Across the Bridge, a non-profit newly funded organization. Axton shared their appreciation for the support of Issaquah Human Services Commission by sharing a letter of impact from an individual utilizing their "Big Book" resource.

Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of March 19, 2025.

BROWN introduced the minutes of March 19, 2025. Commissioner FISH motioned to approve the minutes of March 19, 2025 as presented. Commissioner BLOOR seconded the motion, there was unanimous consent to approve the minutes as presented.

Input on 2025 Issaquah Culture Fest Welcoming Week Event (D)

Presented by:

Hannah Roberts, Senior Human Services Coordinator

ROBERTS presented the history of the worldwide Welcoming Week campaign and in Issaquah over the years. ROBERTS sought input from commissioners what they would like to see at the Issaquah Culture Fest Welcoming Week event in 2025. Key takeaways from the feedback provided includes to continue to prioritize a strong MC to lead the event; let the performers determine if they would like to interact with the audience or not; non-profit organizations tables and include more ways to get involved in the community; consider High School clubs to get involved such as the Spanish or Indian club; consider asking The Garage to get involved in a communal art project for the event; offer tours of the community center so people understand how to access it; combine it as a food donation option; advertise it as grocery stores or other local business where people commonly shop.

Reports

- Chair and Commission Report

Commissioner BLOOR share about upcoming city events such as the sustainability fair.

- Youth Report

Youth Representative MIELE share progress and plans for the triathlon.

- Staff Report

ROBERTS shared on May 10 there will be Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month hosted by the Circle at the Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm. The next meeting is currently scheduled for May 21, 2025.