



King County

Adult Services Division

Women's Advisory Board

Department of Community and Human Services

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WOMEN'S ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES FROM THE July 1, 2020 MEETING

Meeting Type: Regular: <u> X </u> Special: <u> </u>	Location: https://kingcounty.zoom.us/j/96307086601 Meeting ID: 963 0708 6601 Password: 604774	Called to Order: 4:05	By: Zeeba Khalili
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Members Present:			
Rebecca Chan	Karol Brown	Joey Ketah	
Michaela Ayers	Kathryn Hancock	Hamdi Abdulle	
Jessica Giner	<i>Po. 8 Vacant</i>	Heena Khatri	
Sarah Reyneveld	<i>Po. 9 Vacant</i>	Kathy Brasch	
Aimee Grant	Zeeba Khalili	Dionne Foster	
Excused/Absent:	Sarah Reyneveld (excused)		
Speakers:	N/A		
Staff:	Allison Jurkovich		
Guests:	N/A		
Approval of Minutes:			
Motion to Approve:	Kathy and Joey	Vote: Y	

AGENDA ITEMS:

Agenda Item 1:	Welcome & Introductions		
	- Names, introductions, and what is exciting for you about the WAB's work?		
Action Items:	Person(s) Responsible:	Deadline/Due Date	
N/A			

Agenda Item 2:	Public Comment		
	No public comment.		
Action Items:	Person Responsible	Deadline/Due Date	
N/A			

Agenda Item 3:	Announcements		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff announcements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Status of appointments and confirmation o Confirm accurate information 		

Action Items:	Person(s) Responsible:	Deadline/Due Date
- Confirm accurate information on WAB profiles	WAB Members	Friday, July 10

Agenda Item 4:	Cowlitz Indian Tribe: Pathways to Healing Program
	<p>Chelsea Hendrickson, Cowlitz Pathways to Healing Program, chendrickson@cowlitz.org</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chelsea is an enrolled member of the Northern Arapaho Tribe (Hinono'eino) and Cup'ik Alaskan Native community from Nunavik Island Alaska. She was born and raised in Seattle, WA. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chelsea has worked at the Cowlitz Pathways to Healing Program for 3 years ▪ Previously worked at Labateyah Youth Home for 6 years – transitional housing for youth 18-24 from the United Indians of All Tribes ○ Cowlitz Tribal Health Services: “The goal of the Cowlitz Indian Tribal Health Clinic is to provide a Holistic Approach to Health Care that promotes Disease Prevention, Treatment, and Education.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ mental health, substance use disorder supports, domestic violence and sexual assault, free child care and transportation ○ Chelsea shared a tribal prayer traditional before conversations about violence against Indigenous Women and Girls - Icebreaker Questions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>What year did City of Seattle enact an ordinance to remove Duwamish and Native peoples?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ February 7, 1865 ○ <i>How many federally recognized tribes are there in the state of Washington?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 29 ○ <i>What is the population size of Native Americans living in King County?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 14,276 but probably higher ▪ That number does not include Duwamish peoples and other tribes that aren't federally or state recognized - Land acknowledgement: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ “Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.” https://usdac.us/nativeland/ ○ A good example is from the Duwamish Tribe: https://www.duwamishtribe.org/land-acknowledgement - Duwamish Tribe federal recognition: A call to the WAB and all people to stand with the Duwamish people and their fight to be federally recognized, https://www.duwamishtribe.org/federal-recognition - Boarding Schools in the U.S. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The first boarding school in the United States was the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, which ran from 1879-1918 in Carlisle, PA ○ In the Pacific Northwest, there is the Chemawa Indian School that opened in 1880 in Salem, OR, and is the oldest continuously operating Native American boarding school in the United States.

- Goal and legacy of boarding schools:
 - The goal was to “kill the Indian, save the man” – a slogan coined by Brigadier General Richard Henry Pratt who was the founder of the Carlisle school
 - Children had no contact with their families after leaving
 - Children took a 10-day train ride across the West where locals in each town would come out to gawk at the children
 - The choice was either to send the children or to experience murder, loss of rations, etc. for the whole tribe who were mostly reliant on the federal government at this point for resources and land
 - Children experienced complex traumas including sexual and physical abuse, murder (including many unmarked graves to this day), the removal of language, clothing and culture and separation of family members.
 - The legacy of the boarding schools has created intense historical trauma passed down through generations. Impacts are then weaponized and even further stigmatize Native and Indigenous communities through harmful stereotypes, including substance abuse and domestic violence.
- Native community is experiencing a renaissance of healing – repatriating, re-learning language and cultural traditions that were forcibly taken from communities
- Chelsea’s family and the [Northern Arapaho Tribe’s Fight to Bring Their Children Home](#):
 - First tribe in U.S. to repatriate bodies from Carlisle Indian School
 - August 2017 Little Chief and his cousin/brother – Horse came home. Brought back to the Wind River Indian Reservation in Wyoming, home to the Northern Arapaho
 - Little Chief was one 10,600 children forcibly taken from Native American homes and sent to Carlisle.
 - These individuals are relatives of Chelsea’s, including: Little Chief, Little Plume & Horse
- There are lots of additional resources to learn about boarding schools – [“Unseen Tears”](#) is a brief documentary on the history of Native American Boarding Schools and can be watched in parts on YouTube. It outlines the continued impact of the Thomas Indian School and the Mohawk Institute in New York on children who “experienced traumatic separation from their families, abuse, and a systematic assault on their language and culture.”

- **Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women/People: “The Spirit of Resiliency”**

- History of MMIW (or MMIWG – women and girls):
 - Sparked in Canada when it started its [Truth and Reconciliation commission](#) in 2015 – mandated by Canadian Government to document and inform all Canadians about what happen in the [Indian Residential Schools](#), including sexual and physical abuse, and murder.
 - There is a phenomenal podcast hosted by investigative journalist Connie Walker, (who is Cree, from the Okanese First Nation, in Saskatchewan) about the history of the residential schools and Indian child welfare system: [Missing & Murdered – Finding Cleo](#).
 - MMIW started as a grassroots movement:

- Indigenous women have been fighting for their land and families since contact with settlers
- First time Chelsea heard about MMIW was [Tina Fontaine](#) who was murdered in Canada in 2014.
 - For more information on the legacy of Tina Fontaine and surrounding activism, you can visit [this page](#) on Vice news.
- The [Standing Rock Movement](#) lit a fire in Indian county – physically, metaphorically and spiritually.
- First Nations Communities call for Inquiry into MMIW in Canada – final report can be found [here](#).
- **Video: [Canada’s missing and murdered Indigenous women](#)**
 - Organizations highlighted in the video: [Bear Clan Patrol](#), [Drag the Red](#), and [Midnight Medicine Walk](#)
- **Video: [Why are Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Cases Being Ignored?](#)**
- Why Wear Red?
 - Red is the color of the MMIW movement. It represents power and fire and is one of the colors on the sacred medicine wheel
- **MMIW Database & Research –**
 - Researchers:
 - Annita Lucchessi, Northern Cheyenne – she is the Executive Director of [Sovereign Bodies Institute](#) (SBI), a research institute dedicated to community-engaged research on gender and sexual violence against Indigenous people.
 - Abigail Echohawk, MA, Pawnee – Director at the [Urban Indian Health Institute](#) (UIHI), a division of the Seattle Indian Health Board where she is the Chief Research Officer – Seattle, WA
 - The [MMIWG2 database](#) maps MMIWG and colonial sexual violence and logs cases of MMIWG and [two-spirit](#) people.
 - Reports:
 - [Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Report, 2018](#)
 - [Our Bodies Our Stories](#)
 - Prominent statistics called out by Chelsea:
 - 2.5x more likely to be raped
 - 53% more likely to lack permanent housing
 - 94% of women surveyed had been raped or coerced in lifetime
 - 8% of cases ended in a conviction
- **Barriers to Reporting/Collecting Data**
 - *“Native women don’t go missing once, but three times in life: physically, in the media and in the data” – Annita Lucchessi*
 - Local, federal & Tribal jurisdictional issues
 - Multiple databases
 - Tribe may not be federally recognized (i.e. Duwamish Tribe) or SPD/KC Sheriff’s misclassification
 - 71% of NA/AN live in urban areas and not on native land
- **New laws and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA):**
 - [House Bill \(HB\) 2951](#) (2017-18) “Ordering a study to determine how

to increase reporting and investigation of missing Native American women.”

- [Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska WA Chapter](#) hosted a community outreach meeting at Snoqualmie Indian Casino, 10/29/2018 (Joey Ketah from WAB is the Chair)
 - The report was released last year, but confirmed community concerns that it was:
 - Checking boxes rather than authentic engagement
 - Meeting minutes rather than an actual study
 - In response, UIHI released a report called “[MMIWG: We Demand More](#)”
 - [Savanna’s Act \(aka #MMIW Act\)](#): “directs the Department of Justice (DOJ) to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols to address missing and murdered Indians”
 - Savanna’s Act [[S1942](#)] introduced by Senator Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) in 2017 – passed in Senate and held at House desk in 2018.
 - Savanna’s Act [[S277](#)] was reintroduced into both the House and Senate by Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) in 2019 and held at House desk in 2020.
 - **Video:** [Women Senators, Tribal Leader Discuss Importance of VAWA Improvements](#)
- **Additional Conversation:**
- Context for the Takeover of Fort Lawton:
 - <https://www.unitedindians.org/49th-anniversary-of-the-takeover-of-fort-lawton/>
 - https://depts.washington.edu/civilr/FtLawton_takeover.htm
- **Questions from WAB:**
- *What is the root cause of the rape and what can we do about it?’*
 - Settler-colonialism, westernized colonized view of white men in power, since 1492. “Because I’m brown, Native and you want my land so I am subhuman, which means you can exploit people. And you can get away with it.”
 - There are also laws in many places that protect white men (who are the predominant perpetrators of violence against Native women) from being tried on tribal land/reservations, so they are [able to assault with impunity](#). More information can be found [here](#) and [here](#) in documentaries, film, podcast, television and many news outlets. The reauthorization of VAWA highlighted in [the video above](#) is to offset this reality and allow tribal authority over non-Natives.
 - We all need to decolonize our mindset and the daily world that we live in, like listening to Chelsea and hearing her narrative
 - This work goes hand in hand with BLM, and solidarity with immigrants and refugees
 - *Can you talk about the legislation that was passed at Seattle City Council last year on MMIW? And if there is organizing to pass similar legislation at King County?*
 - [Resolution 31900](#) was introduced by Councilmember Debora Juarez, and enrolled Blackfeet tribal member, and passed 9-0 by Seattle City

	<p>Council in 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abigail Echohawk from UIHI and Seattle City Councilmember Debora Juarez partnered on the first resolution in a city across the US that is allocating money to Native-led/run organizations to collect data. ▪ SIHB response can be read here. <p>○ <i>What are existing behaviors/environmental factors that contribute to the vulnerability of the indigenous women?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conversation about the toxicity of calling populations “vulnerable” – it is about systems that have targeted and preyed upon communities and populations. ▪ Need to see Native community leadership – “if I cannot see my face as a Native woman then it feels like a token voice and talking into the wind” ▪ King County Council is not representative of the community, particularly communities of color and Native and Indigenous community. <p>○ <i>Are there any mentorship or leadership programs for Native women?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Native Action Network started up by Claudia Kauffman and Iris Friday – Native women conference and leadership cohort <p>○ <i>What recommendations would you ask the WAB to put forward?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Give money to the Native-run/led organizations, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Seattle Club • Cowlitz Tribe • Duwamish Tribe • Mother Nation* • Seattle Indian Health Board* and UIHI • United Indians of All Tribes Federation (UIATF) ▪ Funding for long-term transitional housing for GBV survivors (DVSA and Human Trafficking): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mother Nation Spirit House • Chief Seattle Club Eagle Village in SoDo <p><i>*orgs funded specifically for GBV work by DCHS (not an exhaustive list)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A community supports fund to pay community members to come and speak. It is important that we not tokenize Native and Indigenous folks and survivors and pay people for their labor
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Action Items:	Person(s) Responsible:	Deadline/Due Date
- Minutes with links and follow-up	Staff	August 13, 2020

Agenda Item 4:	WAB Elections
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appreciation for Sarah Reyneveld as Chair for the past two years. - Vice Chair: Supports around recruitment and provides support to primary Chair for meeting planning, agenda setting, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Joey Ketah: seen growth in the WAB and efforts to explore how its influence can be felt throughout King County and will be an exciting time to make sure that we have diverse representation and voice going forward. To hold ourselves and our leadership accountable and with integrity. o Motion to elect Joey as Vice Chair: Heena, Aimee seconds – Y - Chair: Lead meetings, representative for the WAB, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Zeeba Khalili: Excited about the opportunity to lift up the voices of women of color in our community and to center their work and lives. o Motion to elect Zeeba as Chair: Kathy, Dionne seconds - Y
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Action Items:	Person(s) Responsible:	Deadline/Due Date
- N/A		

Agenda Item 4:	Letter & Next Steps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Power of letter to City of Seattle was in following the demands of organizers of BLM <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o there will be some learning for the group to make sure that the WAB is making requests in line with BLM o If there aren't specific asks from BLM then further inquiry into what those requests might be o King County Equity Now Coalition – Dionne will reach out to touch base with them as a stakeholder o <i>What other stakeholders?</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Michaela – who else should we be talking to? - How can we embed more anti-racist principles in the WAB itself and will loop back with Michaela an Dionne

Action Items:	Person(s) Responsible:	Deadline/Due Date
- Racial Equity Committee to meet on next steps	Michaela and Dionne	August 13, 2020

- **Next Steps:**
 - o Collective Justice will be coming to August meeting to talk about alternatives to criminal-legal system supports for survivors of gender-based violence.

AJOURNMENT

Time: 6:00 pm

NEXT MEETING

Date: August 13, 2020

Time: 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Location: Zoom/Call-In