CALL TO ORDER: The 2021 Snohomish County Children's Commission Meeting was held via ZOOM on Wednesday June 30, 2021. The meeting convened at 4:35 PM, Charlotte Zissel and Vice Chair Karen O'Meara Pullen presiding. Quorum was not met.

Commissioners
Charlotte Zissel Present
Karen O'Meara Pullen Excused
Nancy Mickels Absent
Mary Fischer LOA
Anita Canter Absent
Jerry Strieck Absent
Desmond Pullen Excused
Courtney Wooten Present
Argelia Grassfield Present
Karen McKeen Present
Lindee Tollefsen Present
Ronda Metcalf Absent
Whitney Stohr Present

County Staff Present
Nicole McMurray
Karen Matson
Christie Lee Kamka

Guests Present
Becky Megard
Wyonne Perrault
Brook Roberts

Charlotte Zissel noted there was no quorum. She welcomed all and read the Mission Statement and the Land Acknowledgement.

Karen Matson spoke about the trauma unfolding in Canada; They are finding graves, in residential schools, of children that were unaccounted for, that their families had their children taken from them and then never knew what had happened to them. They are now up to 1,000 graves of children, in Canada, some as young as three years old. She acknowledged the trauma for those children, the families and the generations that are still experiencing the residual, horrible impacts of the genocide of those residential schools. The head of the US Department of the Interior has stated that they will be launching investigations within the residential schools of the United States as they believe they will find similar gravesites within those residential schools.

Introductions
Commissioners, County Staff and guests introduced themselves.

Public Comment
No public comments
Approval of Minutes of May 26, 2021

No Quorum was met. Approval of the May 26, 2021 meeting minutes will be approved at the July 28, 2021 meeting.

Commissioner Update

The application Desmond Pullen submitted, to be reappointed to the Children’s Commission, is currently on hold for another month due to the County Council having other agenda items.

Children’s Commission – Changes to Appointment Process

Karen Matson provided a review of events related to updating the Children’s Commission by-laws and recommending changes to the County Code. She explained that the County is in the midst of reviewing these recommendations and identified inconsistencies with the broader Board/Commission Code.

Karen reviewed the changes that will occur to the current commissioner appointment process to be consistent with the County Code.

The draft document outlining this process will be sent to Commissioners and will be reviewed and discussed at the July meeting.

Karen shared the matrix that identifies required Commissioner representation per the Code. The matrix will help the membership team as they recruit to ensure these requirements are met and to fill in some gaps of expertise, in geographic and other representation.

Karen noted that if a Commissioner leaves mid-term, when the next applicant comes in, they would need to fill that term and it would be considered their first term.

Per the bylaws, Commissioners that have three (3) consecutive unexcused absences will be recommended, by the Commission, to the Executive’s Office and County Council for termination from the Commission.

If you are going to be absent, please either email or call Nicole McMurray, Charlotte Zissel or Karen Matson.

ACTION ITEM. A copy of the SCCC Membership Matrix will be sent out to Commissioners via email and will be revisited at the SCCC meeting on July 28, 2021.

Annual report review

Charlotte stated that feedback and ideas have been received on the Annual Report draft, that was reviewed during the May 26, 2021 SCCC meeting, and the final draft will be discussed and finalized at the July meeting.

The final draft will include introductory pieces on key topics including the pandemic, racial violence and behavior health.

County update

The County will be reopening to the public, on July 6, 2021, at 100% capacity.
There are still discussions regarding in person meetings. There are some questions around face coverings and vaccination certifications.

SCCC will continue to meet via Zoom as we have continued our Zoom License. A decision will be made in the fall, focused around meeting in person, Zoom or hybrid meetings.

**Letter to the Editor – Herald – from the Children’s Commission**

Charlotte Zissel spoke about the annual ‘We Value Kids Award’ and the creation of a recognition letter.

- The Children’s Commission annually does a ‘We Value Kids Award’ that recognizes children and youth in Snohomish County and those that value the children. This is normally an application process that is made available to the community, mainly through schools.
- This year it was discussed that the SCCC would recognize those that have made a huge impact in children’s lives and the children that have risen above and really succeeded during the pandemic.

Karen O’Meara-Pullen drafted a letter to the Editors of the Everett Herald and Nicole McMurray shared the draft.

- The letter to the editors is a great opportunity to increase visibility in the community and for the SCCC, including the work that it does. And, the focus of the letter is to say a huge congratulations to the children and adults in the community and the hard work they have done this year.

Commissioner provided feedback and recommended changes.

Nicole McMurray will email the draft to the SCCC for recommendations of edits or feedback.

**ACTION ITEM. Nicole McMurray will make final edits of the letter to the editors of the Herald and send the final edit to the Commission for review. Any recommendations of changes need to be sent to Nicole McMurray by July 9, 2021**

**Committee review**

The bylaws state that the Commissioners will be active in at least one Committee.

One of the goals for the fall retreat will be for everyone to identify and commit to a Committee to serve on for the next year.

- The Committees are listed in the bylaws. The Commissioners were asked to look at the bylaws and make a decision regarding Committee interests. At the retreat, Commissioners will be officially signing up for their Committees and establishing the guidelines on how the committees will function.

According to the SCCC bylaws the committees are:

- Executive
- Membership
- Public Relations
- Awards
- Policy Recommendations
- Bylaws
Moving forward, the SCCC agenda will have time for Committee reports or updates.

The SCCC retreat is held in October and the focus is on the strategic plan and reevaluating the work the SCCC is doing. This is a time to come together, set goals, and refocus on the strategic plan of the SCCC. At the retreat, the new Chair will take over.

Elections for the new Chair will be established at the September meeting.

**Community resource sharing**

Karen Mattson spoke about current changes in the world of preschool. The Priority within the Biden Administration is to try to increase universal preschool in Washington State.

ECEAP saw a funding increase and will continue to grow.

OSPI is moving forward on requiring school districts to fully provide inclusive preschool.

- Children in developmental preschool will be served in preschool programs that are considered gen-ed preschool.

**July Meeting**

The primary discussion for July will be the Commissioners placing recommendations on the table for the County’s policy agenda. Please think about the local, state and federal policies that you would like the County to advocate for on behalf of our community.

**Adjourn**

Charlotte Zissel thanked everyone for attending.

**ACTION ITEM. Whitney Stohr made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Courtney Wooten seconded the motion. Motion could not be passed due to quorum not being met.**

MEETING ADJOURNED

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 5:39 P.M.

**The next Snohomish County Children’s Commission meeting will be held via ZOOM on Wednesday, July 28, 2021 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.**