



Meeting Minutes - Draft

City Council

City Hall
601 4th Avenue E
Olympia, WA 98501

Information: 360.753.8244

Friday, June 11, 2021

12:00 PM

Online and Via Phone

Mid-Year Retreat

Attend: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89218331189?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89218331189?pwd=djVHeHRyZ3lSSW1xQ25HLzgyL3U4dz09)
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1. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mayor Cheryl Selby, Mayor Pro Tem Clark Gilman, Councilmember Jim Cooper, Councilmember Yến Huỳnh, Councilmember Dani Madrone, Councilmember Lisa Parshley and Councilmember Renata Rollins

2. BUSINESS ITEM

2.A [21-0599](#) Mid-Year Retreat

Facilitator Nancy Campbell summarized the key themes that emerged during her interviews with the Councilmembers. The themes and issues were as follows:

- Desired Retreat Outcomes: create operating agreements for how we work together; shared understanding of how we get the work done; review Council Guidebook and revise as needed; set priorities and address how to best function during campaign season.
- Challenges: addressing another year of multiple challenges (economy, pandemic, housing issues, becoming more inclusive, new issues such as public safety, social justice, and climate); what is the role of the Council? (Split between strategy and implementation); lack of agreement on process and roles; need to revisit the operating agreements; divergent views on public safety and multiple campaigns.
- Desired Retreat Outcomes: create operating agreements for how we work together; shared understanding of how we get the work done; review Council Guidebook and revise as needed; set priorities and discuss working together during campaigns.
- Member Relationships: five members up for election; harder to have effective relationships when not in person; developing cliques; should the group vote more; time for unstructured conversation and avoiding difficult conversations.
- 2021-22 Priorities: making sense of what we are hearing from community

outreach related to equity and public safety; how to win the confidence of constituents to participate in the equity and public safety work; how to spend recovery funds and housing

- Systems and Processes: balance of power between staff and Council; Transformational vs incremental change; no agreement on referral process; should the public safety committee no longer be an Ad Hoc and latitude to meet with constituents.

Consultants from Ascending Leadership, Leilani Raglin and Adana Portonentis, led a session on beholding another and fully seeing a person for who they are without judgment or trying to change them. Beholding requires the willingness to recognize that perfection is not only not attainable but prevents us from being fully engaged and sharing who we are.

The City Council discussed extending the Ad Hoc Committee on Public Safety through December 2021. Staff supporting the Ad Hoc Committee will provide reports to the Ad Hoc Committee instead of the General Government Committee. Briefings to the full Council will continue. It was suggested the Council have a design charrette regarding committees in December or January. The committees will review their workload and identify if there are items that could be transferred to another committee should the Ad Hoc Committee on Public Safety become a permanent committee.

The Council discussed the work of the Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee. Councilmembers Lisa Parshley, Jim Cooper and Yén Huỳnh will be put forward for formal appointment by the full Council at a future City Council meeting.

The Council discussed several revisions to their referral process. The agreed that a referral will be added to the Council packet so it is heard at the next business meeting, ensuring Councilmembers can explore the merits of the referral. Councilmembers agreed that the process must be honored by all members and community impact should be considered.

The discussion was completed.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:09 p.m.