



SOUND CITIES ASSOCIATION

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## **SCA Board of Directors DRAFT MINUTES**

April 17, 2019 – 10:00 AM to Noon  
Tukwila City Hall, Hazelnut Room  
6200 Southcenter Blvd, Tukwila, WA 98188

### **1) Call to Order**

President Leanne Guier called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM. Present were members Dana Ralph, Ed Prince, Bob Larson, David Baker, Hank Margeson, Bruce Bassett, Jim Ferrell, Catherine Stanford, Nancy Backus, and staff Deanna Dawson and Brian Parry. Davina Duerr joined the meeting at 10:06 during item 4. Amy Ockerlander joined the meeting at 10:26 during item 7.

### **2) Public Comment**

President Guier asked if any members of the public had comment. Hearing none, this portion of the agenda was closed.

### **3) Consent Agenda**

**Nancy Backus moved, seconded by Catherine Stanford, to approve the consent agenda consisting of Minutes of the March 20, 2019 SCA Board of Directors meeting, March 2019 Profit and Loss Statement, and March 2019 Balance Sheet. (Attachments 1-3.) The motion passed unanimously.**

### **4) President's Report**

President Guier reported that she is looking forward to the Municipal League Organization of the Year award being presented to SCA at their awards celebration on May 9. She said that she would be attending the State of the County address on April 18 in Preston. President Guier asked if anyone had an objection to moving item 9 on the agenda (committee appointment to IJT) to Item 6. There was no objection.

### **5) Executive Director's Report**

SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported on hiring of a new Administrative Services Manager who will begin on May 1, 2019. Dawson recently completed Executive Leadership program at Leadership Eastside along with David Baker and that it was a valuable experience. Dawson invited board members to join in a discussion following the board meeting to discuss how to address toxic social media.

### **6) Committee Appointment**

SCA Executive Director Dawson reported that a call for nominations was sent for a staff appointment to the Interjurisdictional Team (IJT). Bruce Bassett noted the geographic distribution of current IJT members and that the board should consider appointing a nominee from the northern portion of the county. The board discussed the qualifications of the candidates.

**Bruce Bassett moved, seconded by Hank Margeson to appoint Evan Maxim of Mercer Island to the Interjurisdictional Team with a term ending December 31, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **7) Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Hank Margeson reported on the April 8 meeting of the Finance Committee. He noted that financial reports for March were approved during the consent agenda. Margeson updated the board on the financial impact of the recent hire at SCA that did not work out. Due to errors on the part of former staff and the payroll team, the employee's spouse was included on health insurance during their employment which contributed to additional costs for their time with SCA, in addition to their salary for the brief period of employment which overlapped with SCA's former Administrative Services Manager. Total cost for the unsuccessful employee came to approximately \$7,000. The candidate selected for the new hire came to SCA through a staffing agency. At the direction of the Finance Committee, ED Dawson negotiated with the staffing agency to find a fee that could fit into SCA's contingency fund for the year. Part of that negotiation included an in kind contribution for Partner sponsor for the staffing agency. Total out of pocket cost to SCA for the staffing agency will be \$9,000. One of the benefits of working with the staffing agency was that they will assist in finding a replacement if the hire is not successful. SCA also incurred costs to post the position (twice). The impact of the hire can be covered through contingency fund, and due to fact that revenues for sponsorships are coming in higher than budgeted. Margeson gave members an update on city members and dues payment. All cities except Milton have paid 2019 dues. Dawson expects an update from Milton within the week. Regional Associate Members and Partners are coming in higher than budgeted by approximately \$15,000. Boeing and Microsoft are new partners that have been added since last board meeting.

## **8) PIC Chair's Report**

PIC Chair Ed Prince asked ED Dawson to report on the April 10, 2019 PIC meeting. SCA Executive Director Deanna Dawson reported on the pre-PIC with Metro General Manager Rob Gannon presenting on Metro's "Innovative Mobility Initiative." SCA is working with Gannon to hold another pre-PIC later in the year to discuss implementation of Metro Connects' planned expansion of service and the gap in funding for that service. Dawson reported on the PIC recommendation to adopt a statement in support of the Challenge Seattle initiative to address the need for affordable housing for middle-income households. The vote was 25-2, with one abstention (Woodinville). Shoreline expressed concerns about reducing or waiving impact/development fees, and moved to amend the policy position not to include specifics. That motion failed (26-2). Beaux Arts Village also voted against the proposed policy position at the PIC meeting, but did not speak to the motion.

**Nancy Backus moved, seconded by David Baker to adopt the following public policy statement as recommended by the PIC:**

***SCA believes that healthy, vibrant communities are ones that offer affordable housing options for families and individuals all along the income spectrum.***

***In recent years, the speed of economic and population growth in our region has outpaced the growth in housing supply, creating a shortage of affordable housing—pricing out too many households and threatening the fabric of our community.***

***We will continue our work to address homelessness and low-income housing and we will also work to address the growing crisis of the lack of affordability of middle-income housing in the area. Too many of our teachers can no longer afford to live near the schools where they teach.***

***Too many nurses, teachers, police and other first responders are moving out of the communities they serve to find homes they can reasonably afford. Homelessness continues to rise, and our local workforce is commuting from farther and farther away – worsening congestion and eroding our sense of community.***

***To address this problem, we intend to do our part to break down barriers and provide incentives to substantially increase the supply of quality housing for all households in our community. We will consider opportunities to advance housing affordability in the region, including but not limited to:***

- 1. Making available at no cost, at deep discount, or for long-term lease, under-utilized publicly-owned properties,***
- 2. Updating zoning and land use regulations to increase density near current and planned public transit,***
- 3. Reducing or waiving parking requirements in transit corridors to help reduce overall development costs,***
- 4. Reducing or waiving impact and other development-related fees,***
- 5. Streamlining and accelerating the permitting process for low- and middle-income housing projects to improve developer certainty,***
- 6. Providing tax exemptions and credits to incent low- and middle-income housing development, and***
- 7. Updating building codes to promote more housing growth and innovative, low-cost development.***

***We believe that these efforts, combined with the support of the greater community, will make our region more affordable for all households and will advance quality of life throughout the region.***

**Chair Guier asked if there was any discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Board members asked that a letter be sent to Challenge Seattle CEO Chris Gregoire expressing SCA's statement of support.

Dawson discussed the need to ensure SCA is in compliance with state law when considering what if any actions SCA should take regarding I-976, reminding the board that Washington State law (RCW 42.17A.555) broadly prohibits the use of any public facility or resources from being used in support or opposition to a ballot proposition with three limited exceptions. Catherine Stanford opined that the best role for SCA is to provide objective and neutral information about I-976.

Dawson reported on the discussion of the proposed King Conservation District (KCD) work plan and rates for 2020-2024. Asked if the board has feedback for SCA representatives on the KCD. Members discussed the need for clearer information on the proposed rate increase and expressed concerns about supporting an increase to the KCD rate.

Dawson reported on the parks levy. She noted that the levy had increased by more than cities hoped, but the levy would be more flexible and include cities' priorities. Overall the levy was largely reflective of the feedback given by cities. Board members expressed appreciation for the work of the county executive, county council, and county staff to listen to city priorities.

Dawson and Backus gave an overview of regional homelessness governance and system recommendations. Backus noted that All Home is looking at structure of new regional organization and that she has stressed the need for elected officials to be included in the new governance structure.

Dawson gave an update on the VISION 2050 update. The comment period for the draft SEIS runs through April 29. Members asked to provide copies of any comment letters to SCA.

## **9) City Administrator's Report**

Bob Larson, Snoqualmie City Manager reported on the April 3, 2019 City Managers & Administrators meeting. He highlighted a report from the Seattle Sports Commission and their efforts to partner with cities to promote tourism and recreation opportunities in the region.

## **10) Discussion Items**

- a. Municipal League Organization of the Year Award  
The Board celebrated being named the Municipal League's 2019 Organization of the Year.
- b. Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM)  
All board members present noted that their cities would be recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Dawson noted that 35 cities and towns are participating in 2019. Members noted the importance of raising awareness.
- c. Chamber Study Mission  
Dawson encouraged board members to join on this study mission. She noted that workforce development will be a focus of the mission.
- d. 2019 SCA Retreat  
The board discussed the 2019 retreat and progress toward goals identified at the retreat. Members noted that many elected officials who are active with SCA are planning to retire in 2019.
- e. Membership Survey  
The Board agreed to revisit the idea of a membership survey once SCA is fully staffed.
- f. 2019 Accomplishments  
The Board reviewed 2019 accomplishments including: wins for cities included in the Parks Levy; partnering with Challenge Seattle and Microsoft on middle income affordable housing; being represented and sought out for inclusion with the Chamber study mission; and receiving the Municipal League's Organization of the Year award.

## **11) Upcoming Events/Meetings**

- a. SCA Public Issues Committee – Wednesday, May 8, 2019 – 7:00 – 9:00 PM (with workshop with Ann Macfarlane of Jurassic Parliament immediately preceding meeting at 6:00 PM) – Renton City Hall
- b. SCA Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, May 15, 2019 – 10:00 AM – noon – Tukwila City Hall

- c. SCA Networking Dinner (with legislative panel, sponsor Gordon Thomas Honeywell) – Wednesday, May 22, 2019 – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM – Renton Pavilion Event Center
- d. SCA Networking Dinner (with guest GSP CEO Brian McGowan, sponsor Boeing) – Wednesday, July 31, 2019 – 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM – Renton Pavilion Event Center

**12) For the good of the order**

**13) Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.