

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE
JUNE 2, 2021

The Commissioners of the Housing Authority of the City of Seattle (“Seattle Housing Authority” or “SHA”) met in Special Session on June 2, 2021, via teleconference. Board Chair Paul Purcell called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. Commissioner Purcell performed a roll call for Board Commissioners in attendance. Commissioners present and absent were as follows:

Present: Paul Purcell, Chair
Gerald Smiley, Vice-Chair
Robert Crutchfield
Rita Howard

Absent: Dr. Paula Houston, Vice-chair
Twyla Minor
Debbie Thiele

Public Comment

None

Regular Agenda

Resolution No. 5219 - Designating Juneteenth an Annual SHA Holiday

Commissioner Crutchfield moved for consideration of Resolution No. 5219; Commissioner Smiley seconded the motion. Executive Director Rod Brandon presented Resolution No. 5219 to the Board and recommended adoption of the resolution.

Resolution No. 5219 recognizes Juneteenth (illustrative of June 19, 1865, when news reached Galveston, Texas that the Civil War had ended and that all enslaved persons were now emancipated from the bondage of slavery) as an SHA paid holiday as of June 18, 2021, giving an opportunity to renew SHA’s solidarity and commitment to antiracism, to educate ourselves about the legacy of slavery and inequity, and to reaffirm our commitment to greater racial and social justice.

Valerie Peaphon, Union Representative of Local 8/OPEIU, sent a letter conveying strong support in favor of recognizing Juneteenth as a holiday for SHA staff in 2021. Kudos from various commissioners followed, recognizing this action to be an important statement to make for the agency, as well as an important day to recognize in our nation's history.

Hearing no further discussion, Commissioner Purcell called for a vote. Resolution No. 5219 was approved unanimously among the members of the Board present at the time (4 yes; 0 no).

Mr. Purcell then asked for any questions, or comments from the Board. Hearing none, it was moved by Commissioner Crutchfield and seconded by Commissioner Smiley that the June 2, 2021 Special Session of the Board be adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Secretary-Treasurer