

CITY OF SEATAC
Community Services Advisory Committee
Minutes

September 11, 2017
5:30 PM

SeaTac City Hall
Riverton Room

Call to Order	Committee members met at 5:30 PM
Members Present	Cheryl Forbes, Judith Williams, Maria Wachtel
Members Absent	Edwin Obras, Lawrence Pitre
Staff Present	Colleen Brandt-Schluter, Parks, Community Programs & Services
Approval of Minutes	

BUSINESS

Agency Presentations

King County Bar Association Harry Higgins and Edmund Witter shared that they have been in business for 20 years modeled after Rochester, NY. – a homelessness prevention program providing accessible volunteer-based legal services for low-income tenants facing eviction in King County. They help to reduce the pain and try to get a cushion if there is no defense. For those that do, they fight for dismissal or trial. Most common situation is tenant falling behind in rent due to a job loss or medical accident. Clients are not “system users”. They look for defenses in the case to break the cycle of debt that will haunt clients for 10 years. 70% of low income households have had at least one issue. 65% don’t take action because they don’t know how or didn’t believe there was help. 24% got help and 61% of those that did, received some resolution. They have 3-5 volunteer attorneys and 2-4 paralegals. Services are free of charge and at a going rate of \$225/hr., they have provided ~\$45,475 worth of legal representation and advice to SeaTac residents.

The Committee continued to discuss their work plan and okayed the agenda format. Colleen provided the updated presentation schedule and City Council and department Road Maps. Colleen will take them on a tour of the dept. process boards at a future meeting.

New Business

Larry shared an update as did Judy about the HS Needs Assessment, consultant interviews and process.

Colleen provided a presentation on the direct services from the HS Office, the types of case management and information and referral that occurs, and the regional work she is involved in to support a coordinated approach to addressing the needs of the SeaTac community.

Next meeting: October 9, 2017. Time – 5:30pm – 7:30pm. Riverton Room.

Adjourn: