TBI Council Minutes

February 5, 2026

Promote | Advise | Engage

TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY
Strategic Partnership Advisory Council of Washington State

Attendees: Heatherlyn Bahme, Daphne Nolte, Katie Mirkovich,
Tammy Cooper Woodrich, Cecil Daniels, Allison Garza, Brittany Lenihan- (left meeting at 10: 18), Amanda Kersey Sullivan, Chad Anderson, Nick Mehrnoosh, Eric Rainey Gibson, Jesse Fann, Tracy Kahlo, Jessica Blanchard,

Absent: Taylor Brummett, Stephanie Kunold, Kris Rhoads

Others: Heather Bidwell, Maralise Hood Quan, Kim Conner, Lauren Miles, Nazar Borishkevich, Will Hitchcock, Parker, Steven, Valerie Wooten, Janet Novinger, Dru Aubert, Desiree Douglas, Sheri Barronian, Marla Emde

Housekeeping: Maralise Hood Quan

Meeting Start: 9:08 a.m.

Welcome: TBI Council introduced themselves

- Conversation/Introduction: share your name/pro noun/day activities/how you were appointed
- What do you most wish that you want to accomplish on the Council?

Mission – Meeting Norms: Amanda Kersey, Vice Chair

Approval of Minutes- Amanda Kersey Sullivan, Vic Chair

> **Motion**: Approve as present
> First: Katie Mirkovich Second: Brittany Lenihan
> Yes: 14 No: 0 Abstain:0
> Decision: **Approved**

Executive Committee Report: Amanda Kersey, Vice Chair

Ad- Hoc Budget Committee Report: Tracy Kahlo, Council member

Overview of report.

> **Motion**: Accept recommendations as presented
> First: Tracy Kahlo Second: Heatherlyn Bahme
> Yes: 13 No: 0 Abstain 1

Decision: **Approved**

Nomination Committee for 2nd Vice-Chair: Amanda Kersey Sullivan, Vic Chair

Heatherlyn Bahme was presented by the Executive Committee serving as the Nominating Committee. No motions received from the floor.

Motion: Accept Heatherlyn Bahme as 2nd Vice Chair
First: Tracy Kahlo Second: Cecil Daniels
Yes: 13 No: 0 Abstain: 1
Decision: **Approved**

Pathway update: Maralise Hood Quan, Facilitator

Discussion:

- Importance of building relationship with local DV commissions, outreach to primary care and first responders, coalitions, and working with Nooksack tribe and Murdered & Missions Indigenous Women (MMIW). Shared importance of working with clergy and spiritual aspect or recovery and healing. Tribal police need more training and need to be aware of extensive trainings police and first-responders already have to take.
- Council agrees with the importance of continuing this work.
- Sunsetting Pathways and creating TBI DV committee

Motion: Accept the recommendation of the Pathway to create a committee with a scope based on recommendations. Membership starts with Tammy and Allison with staff liaison and they will inform them when they meet.
First: Tammy Kahlo Second: Katie Mirkovich
Yes: 12 No: 0 Abstain: 1
Decision: **Approved**

Break

Public Comment: Maralise Hood Quan, Facilitator

- **Desiree Doublas**: Describe work that she has been doing throughout the years. How can we, community leaders, connect with the Council?
- **Sheri Barronian**: Thank you and it's great to see forward movement with the Council. Has a 30 year old son with a severe TBI. Can not express how much in-person support groups are so important. Hosts a support group for young adults.
- **Janet Novinger**: ED of Imaginal Network. Has support group and yoga classes. Hi to Tammy! Thank you for the work you do serving our community. As a community we work closely together and looking forward to forging a connection. We do virtual support groups as well. The work you do to help families and survivors change the lives of thousands of people across the state. Appreciates hearing about the individual council members.

Report to Council: Kim Conner, TBI Council Coordinator & Lauren Miles, TBI Project Manager

- March: TBI Awareness month. Offered to share materials to Council for their own distribution.
- Heading Forward: shared history and data.

Comprehensive Statewide Report & Plan update: Maralise Hood Quan, Facilitator

- Discussed history and background of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan. Coming up on 20 years since the TBI Council formation.
- Build relationship with local DV commissions, outreach to primary care and first responders, and working Tribal Nations and Murdered & Missions Indigenous Women (MMIW). Important to work with clergy and spiritual aspect or recovery and healing.
- Look at historic Ven diagram of all accomplishments. This will help show where other access points haven't been touched. This will support future direction.
- Workforce development: use strategy of resource development for those with TBI for supported employment and helping the workforces serve TBI.
- Continued work with incarcerated individuals.
- Cornerstone/Looking forward: survey data information, staffing levels, how the work is happening.

Motion: Create committee to do the Comprehensive Plan review.
First: Katie Mirkovich Second: Allison Garza
Yes: 12 No: 0 Abstain: 0
Decision: **Approved**

Meeting Adjourn: 11:31