

**Duluth Nonbinary, Queer, Trans, Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Intersex & Asexual Commission (NQT2SLGBIA)
Commission**

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 9, 2022

5:00 p.m.

This meeting of the Duluth Nonbinary, Queer, Trans, Two Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Intersex & Asexual Commission (NQT2SLGBIA) Commission was held by other electronic means pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 13D.021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the Commission participated through video conference.

I. Call to Order
5:03 p.m.

II. Roll Call
Present: Commissioners Broadwell, Grunseth, Gannon– 3
Absent: 2

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. New Business

a. Candidate(s) for the NQT2SLGBIA Commission

Candidate introduced themselves, asked several questions, and attended the duration of the meeting. Expressed strong desire and interest to serve on the NQT2SLGBIA Commission.

b. Opportunities with Mentor Duluth & Mentor Superior – Jordan Zabel

Mentor North is the parent organization of Mentor Duluth, Mentor Superior, and Mutual Mentoring. Mentor Duluth and Superior is a community based mentor program where we pair youth ages 7-14 who have identified they would like a mentor in their life with adults from the community based on youth/family needs, interests, and hobbies. We ask our mentors to commit to a one year commitment where they meet with their mentee for at least four hours a month. We follow a community based method over a center based method as the research shows mentoring in the community leads to higher impacts on the youth we serve.

Mutual Mentoring is a pilot program of intergenerational mentoring where individuals 65 years and older are paired with college students from St. Scholastica's Dignitas Program to provide mutual mentoring, share stories and experiences, and learn from one another. Mentor North currently provides support of 80+ matches and has about 65 youth still on our waitlist looking for a mentor. The goal of Mentor North is to create a vibrant and inclusive mentorship community.

c. Return to in-person board and Commission Meetings

Staff liaison Alicia Kozlowski shared the update from the City of Duluth and Duluth City Council that Boards and Commissions will return to regularly scheduled in-person meetings beginning in May 2022.

Commissioners discussed the return to in person with concerns expressed about the ability to meet in person starting next month.

V. OLD BUSINESS

2022 Commission Goals

I. *Education on Conversion Therapy Ban*

City Clerk Ian Johnson and Public Information Officer Kate Van Daele attended the meeting and provided an overview of the Conversion Therapy Ban and discussed opportunities for enhanced education, communications, and outreach. Commissioners discussed the challenges with the reporting tool, such as that it is still difficult to find on the website.

Commissioners Broadwell and Grunseth created a draft press release, which was shared for a second and final time for feedback and input by commissioners. Commissioner Grunseth recommends accepting revisions through April and approving the press release during the May 2022 meeting. Commissioner Broadwell is awaiting a quote from Councilor Anderson, Sean Hayes, and asked for a quote from Commissioners for the press release.

II. *City Code Review*

At this moment, the process to review the City Code has not started and is not an active intention to begin that process yet. Commissioner Hakes initiated conversation with City Councilor Anderson to advocate for the process to update language.

III. *Equity Action Team*

Commissioner Hakes to connect with City Attorney Rebecca St. George on the Equity Action Team (EAT) and report back to the Commissioners.

IV. *Increase Visibility of Commission*

V. *Office of Human Rights Discussion*

VI. *Community Healthcare Experiences*

VII. *Communications and Social Media*

Public Information Officer Kate Van Daele provided shared the City's social media policy is still under development, and discussed various other opportunities to elevate and uplift the NQT2SLGBIA Commission via the City and Mayor's social media accounts, press releases, and graphics. Commissioners discussed creating a graphic for the Conversion Therapy Ban outreach, and Commissioner Grunseth offered to identify and send an image for the City's Communications team to develop a graphic.

VIII. *List of BIPOC Businesses*

Commissioners discussed the City of Duluth BIPOC Business Directory and viewed a draft of the website. Staff Liaison Alicia Kozlowski shared the latest BIPOC Directory Website design link found here: <http://172.19.17.45/> and invited the project team to the June 2022 meeting for future collaborations.

IX. *Building Relationships with Boards and Commissions*

X. *Other Business*

XI. *Adjournment*

6:21 p.m.