

DULUTH INDIGENOUS COMMISSION

Monday, November 16, 2015

City Hall, Room 303

Present: Babette Sandman, Donna Newgren, Hannah Smith, Victor St. George

Absent: Tina Olson, Carol DeVerney, Amber Stewart, Kassie Helgerson

Staff: Kathy Wilson, Suzanne Kelley

Other: Mazie Ventura

Note: Per the request of the DIC members two Ojibwe language words are used in the meeting minutes – bezhig (“one”) indicates who made the motion and niizho (“two”) indicates who seconded the motion.

1. Call to Order, Introduction

Sandman called the meeting to order at 5:45pm. Introductions were made.

2. Approval of October meeting minutes

Smith bezhig/St. George niizho to approve the October 19, 2015 meeting minutes – motion passed 4:0.

3. Public Comment

- Chet Welech communicated the latest information on the Four Winds and DHS involvement.
- Leann Littlewolf represents the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless. She will attend the Indigenous Commission meetings and keep the Commission up to date on the Coalition.

4. New Business

- Kelley gave an overview of the 2016 Action Plan and Community Development Committee funding recommendations. The Commission members were informed about the Public Forum on December 1, 2015.
- The Indigenous Commission discussed potential next steps for the Ethnographic Study. They noted that the Study still needs to be finalized by the Minnesota Historical Society.

5. Old Business

- Newgren bezhig/Smith niizho for the Commission to submit an application to the City to rename Lake Place Park to Gitchi O’de (A Grand Heart for the People) – motion passed 4:0. Chair Sandman signed the application on behalf of the Indigenous Commission.

6. Announcements, Upcoming Events and Comments from the Commission

- There will not be an Indigenous Commission meeting held in December.
- January is Trafficking Awareness Month, at noon on January 7th there will be an event held at Gimaajii.
- Commission members want to hold elections at the next meeting.

7. Adjournment:

Smith bezhig/Newgren niizho to adjourn meeting – motion passed 4:0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:06pm.

8. Next Meeting:

Next meeting is January 11, 2016 at 5:30 PM.