

DULUTH INDIGENOUS COMMISSION
Monday, January 27, 2020
City Hall, Room 330

Present: Babette Sandman, Larry Heady, Kassie Helgerson, Carol DeVerney, Mary Owen, Rochelle Goodrich

Absent: Amber Lightfeather, Phoebe Davis

Staff: Kathy Wilson, Mollie Hinderaker

Note: Per the request of the IC 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 5:33 pm. Introductions were made.

2. Approval of meeting minutes

- DeVerney bezhig/Owen niizho to approve the September 16, 2019 meeting minutes. **Motion passed 6:0**

3. Public Comment

- Councilor Janet Kennedy, LISC Director Pam Kramer, and Duluth CareerForce Director Elena Foshay informed the Commission about a planning grant intended to increase diversity in the workforce. They discussed where they are in the process and the steps they are taking to get historically marginalized people at the table for planning.
- Rights of Nature update and planning for educational event/workshop

4. New Business

- City Council Liaison – schedule Committee of the Whole for February 24th
- 2020 Work Plan – adopted as written, but will be a working document attached to every agenda and updated as the year goes on. Helgerson bezhig/ DeVerney niizho to adopt the 2020 Work Plan. **Motion passed 5:0**
- PhotoVoice – project is wrapping up. Forum tentatively scheduled for April 25, 2020 2pm-4pm at the Powless Center, Jim Amell to confirm.
- Election of Officers – For 2020: Babette Sandman, Chairperson; Carol DeVerney, Vice Chairperson; Mary Owen, Secretary - Heady bezhig/Goodrich niizho **Motion passed 5:0**

5. Action Items

- Thank you cards- Heady to design template

6. Subcommittees

- Art in Gichi-ode’ Akiing – working on grants for more art, planning to see if generic plants can be replaced with medicine, still working closely with Zeitgeist.
- Education –
- Police – riot gear policy adopted by city council

- Ni Mi Win – working on inventory for HPC/preservation grant
- Opioids/Natives Against Heroin (NAH)/Sweat Lodge/Sobriety Feast- working more on the Sweat Lodge plans, the Sobriety Feast is going strong and continues to have good attendance. Sobriety Feasts are the 2nd Wednesday of the month @ 6pm @ One Roof. Sandman and Davis working on letter re: most need for placement of needle collection containers in city parks
- Bylaws- Heady made changes and shared with the group. He will maintain the master copy and asked that other Commissioners look at the Bylaws and send and edits/updates to him to compile. Plan to vote on draft for review by Attorneys Office at Feb meeting

7. Old Business

8. Announcements/Adjournment:

Commission wants to invite applicants to attend at least one meeting. City staff will schedule this with the two pending applicants.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42pm

9. Next Meeting:

Next meeting is February 24, 2020 at 5:30 PM.