

DULUTH INDIGENOUS COMMISSION

Monday, April 18, 2016

City Hall, Room 303

Present: Babette Sandman, Tina Olson, Victor St. George, Hannah Smith, Kassie Helgerson

Absent: Amber Stewart, Carol DeVerney, Donna Newgren

Staff: Adam Fulton, Suzanne Kelley, Kathy Wilson, Keith Hamre

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 5:35pm. Introductions were made.

2. Approval of January meeting minutes

- St. George bezhig/Olson niizho to approve the March 21, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion passed 5:0.

3. Public Comment

- Ryuta Nakajima presented his the logo his UMD art class made – they designed the logo to bring awareness to human trafficking. The logo is open source and anyone can use it to make stickers, t-shirts, signs, etc. Commissioners were appreciative of him sharing and invited him to come to a May Day event bringing awareness to human trafficking.

4. New Business

5. Old Business

- Committee of the Whole
 - Commissioners discussed the topics they want to speak about on May 9th at 6pm. Sandman and Olson said they would speak.
 - Counselor Anderson was at the meeting and gave additional information about how to speak at regular City Council meetings – sign up before the meeting starts at 7pm and get 3 minutes to give announcements or discusses important topics.
- Ethnographic Study
 - Staff will help arrange a press release for the presentation of the study and the interactive map made from the study.
- Gitchi Ode Akiing.
 - The Mayor is still connecting with the Greater Downtown Council about the park.
 - Community Planning staff are working with Parks & Rec on the Lakewalk Mini Master Plan.
 - Sandman, Olson, and St. George are still working on letters to send to the different tribes about Gitchi O’de.
 - Donna Bergstrom, a meeting attendee, asked how long it took to get Bob Dylan Way named. Hamre said it was about 4 years including approval from MnDOT, City Council, and getting the funding for signs.
- Sobriety Support
 - St. George met with representatives from All Nations and Thunderbird-Wren House to discuss ideas for having a regular sobriety feast in Duluth.

- Staff agreed to assist in finding contact people for City spaces where the event could potentially be held.
- SMRA Master Planning
 - The City is in the process of hiring a recreation consultant to assist with the Spirit Mountain Master Plan update
 - Fulton handed out the 2008 Master Plan from the Spirit Mountain Recreation Authority
 - Fulton informed the Commission that the plan is to develop some scenarios with the recreation consultant by June and there will probably be a public meeting in late May that the DIC will be invited to.
 - Commissioners said their interest in Spirit Mountain is protecting and preserving the historic, sacred fasting site.

6. Announcements and Comments from the Commission

- Olson provided an update about her experience serving on the Police Chief selection panel. She said it was a positive experience, and that the finalists were both good choices for Chief.
 - On April 28th at 6:30 at Lincoln Middle School there will be a public meeting where community members can get to know the finalists and ask questions.
- St. George provided an update about his experience serving on the Fire Chief selection panel. He also said it was a positive experience and that the finalists were good choices.
- Dona Bergstrom invited everyone to attend the luncheon and groundbreaking for the Center for Changing Lives on May 5th.
- The State of the City Address from the Mayor will be on April 27th at the DECC.
- The Conflict Resolution Center will be coming to a meeting in the future to ask for a letter of support.

7. Adjournment:

St. George bezhig/ Smith niizho to adjourn meeting – motion passed 5:0.
The meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

8. Next Meeting:

Next meeting is June 20, 2016 at 5:30 PM.