

**DULUTH INDIGENOUS COMMISSION**  
**Monday, November 20, 2017**  
**City Hall, Room 303**

**Present:** Larry Heady, Babette Sandman, Amber Lightfeather, Mary Owen

**Absent:** Carol DeVerney, Kassie Helgerson, Donna Newgren-Isaacson

**Staff:** Suzanne Kelley, Kathy Wilson, Adam Fulton

*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 5:57 pm. Introductions were made.

**2. Approval of meeting minutes**

- Heady bezhig/ Lightfeather niizho to approve the September 28, 2017 meeting minutes. **Motion passed 4:0**

**3. Public Comment**

- Chet provided an update on proposed changes to state drug and alcohol treatment; he gave an overview of the [Substance Use Disorder Reform](#).
- Jim Amell provided an update on the Photo Voice project. There have been two adult/elder discussion sessions. They are working with East High School to get more youth involved but are still actively looking for more adults and elders to join the project.

**4. New Business**

- Why Treaties Matter Exhibit- Heady proposed that the Indigenous Commission sponsor the traveling exhibit in City Hall and coordinate volunteers to be present to answer questions.
  - Heady bezhig/ Owen niizho to sponsor the exhibit. **Motion passed 4:0**

**5. Action Items**

- Local Designation of Sacred Sites Resolution– Sandman is in the process of sharing the Commission’s resolution with City Councilors.
- Sweat Lodges – Sandman and city staff are working to figure out liability insurance.

**6. Old Business**

- Ojibwe Language Signs Update- In process.
- Sobriety Feast – About 50 people are showing up regularly each month.
- Gitchi o’de Akiing – Sandman agreed to organize a working group to draft a scope of work for the proposal.
- Subcommittees
  - Education – Working on getting training from Lee Stuart about effective ways to communicate the issues. Lightfeather is regularly attending meetings related to education and education disparities to stay informed on the current issues. Cruz Mendoza is assisting in developing an education summit.

- Police- Maintaining a relationship with the Police Department, but have not had any formal meetings.
- Ni Mi Win – City staff will coordinate with the HPC to find opportunities for grant funding to preserve and display the old Ni Mi Win materials.
- Opioids – No updates.
- Duluth Public Arts Commission (DPAC) – No updates.

**7. Announcements/Adjournment:**

- The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

**8. Next Meeting:**

Next meeting is December 18, 2017 at 5:30 PM.