

DULUTH INDIGENOUS COMMISSION
Monday, December 18, 2017
City Hall, Room 303

Present: Larry Heady, Babette Sandman, Mary Owen Carol DeVerney, Kassie Helgerson, Melissa Deverney, Bob Miller, Phoebe Davis

Absent: Donna Newgren-Isaacson, Amber Lightfeather

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 5:34 pm. Introductions were made.

2. Approval of meeting minutes

- Owen bezhig/C. Deverney niizho to approve the November 20, 2017 meeting minutes. **Motion passed 8:0**

3. Public Comment

- Request for a resolution to go to City Council regarding the Eagle Staff being recognized as the flag. Owen bezhig/Helgerson niizho for the Indigenous Commission to work with Skip Sandman to draft a Resolution recognizing the Eagle Staff as the flag of Indigenous Peoples. **Motion passed 8:0**

4. New Business

- Spirit Mountain Master Plan- City staff presented a summary of the final Spirit Mountain Master Plan. The Commission discussed how important consultation, not just with the Fond du lac Band, but also with the Indigenous community is when proposing new development due to the sacred nature of Spirit Mountain.
- Comprehensive Plan Update- The draft document and information about public outreach meetings is available at <http://www.imagineduluth.com/>. City staff gave an overview of the comp plan update process so far. The Commission discussed the health and fairness principles, employment of people of color and outcome measurements, and the cultural competence of local health care providers.

5. Action Items

- Gitchi O'de- City staff working to get consultant.
- Local Designation of Sacred Sites Resolution– Councilor Gary Anderson will work with city staff to determine which parts of the Commission’s Sacred Sites Resolution are appropriate to make into city ordinance.
- Sweat Lodges – Sandman and city staff working with Cross-Cultural Alliance of Duluth on liability insurance.
- Why Treaties Matter- Commission decided on dates to request the exhibit. Heady will connect city staff with Minnesota Indian Affairs Council staff to work out the details of housing the exhibit at City Hall.

6. Old Business

- Ojibwe Language Signs Update- In process. See Bemidji video: <https://youtu.be/i0US43hxags> (the story about the Bemidji signs project starts at 7:40)
- Sobriety Feast – Applied for grant funds for 2018.
- Subcommittees
 - Education – Organized with NZZCP, Human Rights Commission, DSA for support to work towards removing education disparities.
 - Police- Owen bezhig/Helgerson niizho for the Indigenous Commission to work with NAACP and Human Rights Commission to get in touch with law enforcement and discuss budget issues and riot gear. **Motion passed 8:0**
 - 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. Staff will work with Helgerson to start inventorying the memorabilia from the old Pow Wow.
 - Opioids – No updates.
- Duluth Public Arts Commission (DPAC) – No updates.

7. Announcements/Adjournment:

- The meeting adjourned at 7:47 pm.

8. Next Meeting:

Next meeting is January 22, 2018 at 5:30 PM.