

DULUTH AMERICAN INDIAN COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, July 16, 2012 – 5:15 p.m.

Room 303, 3rd Floor City Hall

MEETING SUMMARY

Present: Ricky DeFoe, Tina Olson, Larry Monchamp, Terry Goodsky, Terry Smith, and Donna Bergstrom

Absent: Ron Hagland, Pricilla Fairbanks, Carol DeVerney, Babette Sandman

Staff: Char McLennan, Suzanne Kelley

1. **Approval of Agenda and May Meeting Summary:** Terry Goodsky made the motion to approve the meeting summary, Tina Olson seconded the motion; the Commission unanimously approved the minutes.

Donna Bergstrom made the motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the “Legal Subcommittee”, Ricky DeFoe seconded the motion; the agenda was a unanimously approved.

2. **Action Items:**

- a. Feast and Forum- The Commission will be using a \$500 grant provided by the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation. There may be additional grants. The United Way will be providing backpacks for children entering Kindergarten. The event will be August 20, at 5:00. Setup time will be at 4:30. Terry Goodsky’s drum group, Little Horse, will be providing the entertainment. The event will be at the Gimaajii building.
 - i. City staff will assist with invitations to officials, including to the: Mayor, City Council, School Board, Judges, Department of Corrections, Arrowhead Regional Corrections, and people who have attended a DAIC meeting.
 - ii. Members discussed who should be the keynote speaker. It was decided that Dr. Polis should be asked, if he cannot attend, then Skip Sandman would be asked.
- b. Mission Statement- Tina Olson, Donna Bergstrom, and Gabriel Peltier provided the members with draft mission statements. Donna Bergstrom made a motion to adopt a mission statement at the meeting. The motioned failed due to the lack of a second. Donna Bergstrom made a motion to adopt Tina’s mission statement with revisions, the motioned failed due to the lack of a second. Ricky Defoe made a motion to have a special meeting to work on the mission statement. Donna Bergstrom seconded the motion, the motion passed. Gabriel Peltier mentioned that draft mission statements could be provided to the public at August’s Feast and Forum.

3. **Public Comment:**

- a. Cruz Mendoza who introduced himself as being on the City’s Human Rights Commission stated that the Human Rights Commission would like to work with the DAIC. They are in the process of developing their strategic plan. Terry Smith asked if the DAIC could be part of the strategic planning process. Cruz told the Commission that they would be invited.
- b. Ann Tjepkema introduced herself.

4. Old Business:

- a. Ojibwa Sign Project-There will be a meeting this Thursday with the Parks and Recreation Department regarding the Wayfinding Grant.
- b. Citizen Review Board- the Citizen Review Board was approved and Ricky DeFoe encouraged everyone to apply to be on this Board. However, he is concerned that the board is not as strong as it could be. One concern is that the Police Chief has too much discretion. Another concern is a complaint has to be filed at the Police Station located off of Arrowhead, which makes it inconvenient for people who do not drive. Also, the configuration states at least one person who has a law enforcement background be on the Board and doesn't prevent for the entire board to be made of individuals who have law enforcement background.
- c. Subcommittee Updates:
 - i. Environmental- was discussed earlier. Gabriel Pelteir discussed the various grants he is working on. He also informed the Commission that he attended the Historic Preservation Commission and that the members of that Commission expressed interest in working with the DAIC. He also mentioned the archeological significance of the concrete slip.
 - ii. Education- there will be an Antibullying meeting on July 19th.
 - iii. Legal- Terry Smith was asked to be part of the interview panel for the new police officers. He informed the Commission that none of the applications were people of color. He did express a concern that just because someone scores well on a test that does not mean they will work well with people on the street. Terry also told the Commission that he was appointed to the Arrowhead Regional Corrections Board.

The members thanked Terry for his work; and also expressed interest in serving on the interview panel. Terry said he didn't know why he was contacted, ie first on the list or because of his involvement with Arrowhead Regional Corrections Board. At the June meeting Lt. Wright had told the members that she would pass Terry's name and Ricky's name to the interview panel.

5. Worksession-Bylaws

- a. Bylaws were handed out and this item was tabled to the special meeting.

6. Announcements, Upcoming Events and Comments from Commission:

- a. Room 303 was very hot and uncomfortable. Staff will see what they can do for the next meeting.
- b. Fond Du Lac Health Fair was rescheduled to August 23.

7. Next Meeting: August 20th for the Feast and Forum

8. Adjournment at 7:00.