

DULUTH INDIGENOUS COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 19, 2015

Present: Babette Sandman, Jaron Smallwood, Hannah Smith, Victor St. George, Donna Newgren

Absent: Tina Olson, Carol DeVerney, Amber Stewart, Kassie Helgerson

Staff: Kathy Wilson, Suzanne Kelley

1. Call to Order, Introductions

Sandman called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM. Introductions were made.

2. Approval of September meeting minutes

Olson motioned to approve the October 20, 2014 meeting minutes, Smith seconded the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments

- Anthony Hernandez expressed concerns about events being held at Gimaajii.
- Mike Casey, representing Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad Association, explained their operation and asked the Indigenous Commission for guidance and support. He stated that the train route follows St. Louis River, Spirit Lake and Mud Lake and how there is Indigenous history that needs to be utilized in Spirit Valley. He requests for the Commission to help with the narrations in relations to train route.
- Duluth Human Rights commissioner, Rebecca Domagala gave an update on smudging in the workplace. There continues to be a struggle to gain full acceptance to smudge as a St. Louis County employee. Domagala asks the Indigenous Commission for continuous support

4. New Business

- Trail Naming Project: three items were discussed, 1. Naming of bike trails in the Fond Du Lac area; 2. Adding Objiswa names on park signs; 3 Naming of the area behind Electric Fetus Chief Odate. Community Development and Parks & Recreation Staff will follow up on these items.

Victor St. George made a motion that this item be put on future agendas until completed. Hannah Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed 4 to 0.

- Work Plan: on November 16, 2015 there will be a work session to develop the work plan for next year. This work session will be from 3 to 5:30 at the Community Development Office, following this meeting will be the regularly scheduled DIC meeting.

5. Old Business

There was a follow up from the Feast and Forum and Indigenous Days. There were comments on how both events had a positive turn outs.

6. Announcements, Upcoming Events and Comments from the Commission

The Minnesota Land Trust will host an event on October 20 at the Zeitgeist Art Buliding. This event invites the public to engage in a fast-paced PechaKucha style discussion about bridging the adventure Gap and ensure all kids are able to engage in outdoor activities.

7. Adjournment:

8. Next Meeting:

Next meeting is November 16, 2015 at 5:30 PM.