

Duluth Indigenous Commission
Monday, January 27, 2025
411 W 1st St, Room 155, City Hall

Commissioners present: Rene Ann Goodrich, Phoebe Davis, Lenelle Hrabik, Ryan Clark (interim)

Commissioners absent: Amber Lightfeather, Rebecca Graves

Staff present: Kathy Wilson, Hannah Figgins

Note: per the request of the Indigenous Commission members, Ojibwe language words are used in the meeting minutes. Gegit is used to indicate that the Commission has come to a consensus in support of the motion.

1. Call to Order and Introductions

- Secretary Davis called the meeting to order at 5:41 PM. Introductions were made.
- An applicant to the Indigenous Commission, Leif DeVaney, introduced himself. He expressed interest in joining the commission as a member of the Métis (recognized as an Indigenous people group by the Constitution of Canada but are not currently acknowledged by the State of Minnesota or the US Federal Government), with a goal of advancing public knowledge and awareness of the Métis.
- Applicant Zach Moder introduced himself to the Commission and expressed his interest in getting involved with and supporting Indigenous movements and culture.
- Maija Stillday introduced herself to the Commission. She would like to join but has not submitted an application yet. She wants to support the revitalization and normalization of Indigenous culture, particularly among area youth.
- Applicant Brian Stillday introduced himself to the Commission. He hopes to promote a greater presence of Indigenous culture in the local schools and wishes to be a voice for those that don't have one as a member of the Commission, if appointed.

2. Approval of October 7, 2024 Meeting Minutes

- An additional line was added to the section on Indigenous People's day planning to clarify that the Commission does not have an allocated budget for the annual event, but work with other local organizations to raise the funds.
- A revision was also made to reflect that the Office for MMIWR has encountered challenges to obtain funding for effected families, which is one reason why the office of MMIWR is doing a Mutual Aid fund to help fill the gap.
- October 7, 2024 minutes were approved with the additions and amendments made.

Motion passed: Gegit - All.

3. Election of Officers

- Chairperson: Phoebe Davis
- Vice Chairperson: Rene Ann Goodrich
- Secretary: Lenelle Hrabik

Motion passed to approve 2025 Officers: Gegit - All.

4. Create and Approve 2025 Indigenous Commission Work Plan

- Work Plan and meeting schedule for 2025 attached
Motion passed to approve 2025 Work Plan: Gigit - All.

5. Next Meeting: February 24, 2025 (4th Monday due to a federal holiday on the 3rd Monday)

Meeting Adjourned at 6:53 pm

INDIGENOUS COMMISSION - 2025 CALENDAR / WORK PLAN

This is a working document and will be updated monthly with current topics when meeting agendas are drafted

Monday, January 27 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 155	Annual Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Election of Officers- Discuss and approve the 2025 Work Plan
Monday, February 24 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Discuss potential for hosting a Round Dance- Discuss annual fire permit for Ceremonies at 4 locations around the city City Reports and Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Bardon's Peak Interpretive Marker (Duncan Schwensohn, Senior Engineer) Commission Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- MMIWR Annual Event – February 14th lighting of Enger Tower, Mayoral proclamation
Monday, March 17 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- MMIWR May event planning City Reports and Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Commission Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">-
Monday, April 21 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- MMIWR May event planning- Pow Wow planning City Reports and Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Commission Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">-
Monday, May 19 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pow Wow planning City Reports and Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Commission Events: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- MMIWR May events

Monday, June 16 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: - City Reports and Updates: - Commission Events: - Pow Wow – date TBD
July	Summer Break – No Meeting
Monday, August 18 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: - Indigenous Peoples Day event planning City Reports and Updates: - Commission Events: -
Monday, September 15 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: - Indigenous Peoples Day event planning City Reports and Updates: - Commission Events: -
Monday, October 20 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room	Commission Business: - City Reports and Updates: - Commission Events: - Indigenous Peoples Day – Monday October 13 th
Monday, November 17 5:30 p.m. City Hall, Room 430, Lakeside Conference Room .	Commission Business: - City Reports and Updates: - Commission Events: -
December	Winter Break – No Meeting