

Mayor's Commission on Communities of Color Minutes September 11, 2023 Regular Meeting



The meeting was called to order by Chair Nikoi at 5:30 p.m. on September 11, 2023 in Government Center Room 204.

1 ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ephriam Nikoi (Chair), Tanzeem Ali (Vice Chair), Louren Yzaguirre (virtual), Jade Wong

MEMBERS ABSENT:

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Nicholas Alexander, Heidi Blunt, Jim Paine (virtual), Frog Prell

OTHERS PRESENT: Shelley Nelson

2 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1 Mayor's Commission on Communities of Color (Meeting held August 14th, 2023)

MOTION to approve by Vice Chair Ali, was seconded by Wong.

MOTION TO AMEND by Chair Nikoi to add Commissioner Ali to list of absent members, was seconded by Wong.

Motion approved as amended.

3 NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Police Department Update with Chief Nicholas Alexander

Chief Alexander provided commission updates on Pathways to Hope program, Operation K9, exploration of future therapy dog programming, Coordinator Response program, homeless encampment updates, and impacts of cannabis law changes in neighboring states.

No action taken.

3.2 Open Meeting Law Review with City Attorney Frog Prell

No action taken.

3.3 Trail Cleanup Activity

Commission discussed trail clean up tentative date of Oct. 7. The Commission will post notice of potential quorum for this social meeting as no action will be taken.

No action taken.

4 OLD BUSINESS

4.1 Planning session for commission activity for remainder of 2023

Commission held brainstorm session for potential activities including:

- Attend Twin Ports APIDA group meeting or event.

- Indigenous People’s Day
- Duluth Human Rights Commission collaboration
- Build options to help advertise community events information
- Create a food or clothing drive event
- Invite international students from area colleges to the commission meetings to give updates

No action taken.

5 RECURRING BUSINESS

5.1 Possible Agenda Items for Future Meeting (October 9th, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.)

No action taken.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Heidi Blunt