



Meeting Minutes - Draft

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission

Wednesday, February 26, 2025

6:00 PM Commerce City Civic Center, Room 3109 - 7887 E 60th Ave,
Commerce City 80022

1. Call To Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 5:34pm.

Attendees: Iona Longsoldier, Bianca Gonzalez-De La Rosa, Deana Hall, Joanne Stranahan, America Carbajal

Visitors: Scott Vanhuesen

Translators: Karla and Nohra

Absent: Marco Vega, Dee Dee Gilliam, Councilmembers Craig Kim and Renee Chacon.

2. Land acknowledgement

Iona presented

3. Q&A with Jim Tolbert, Assistant City Manager

Jim spoke of the commitment to DEI from the city.

4. Public Comment

Scott provided a good review of the recent Black History Month movie night. Suggested expanded learning opportunities for attendees.

5. Ice Breaker

Group shared their favorite black media.

6. Approval of Minutes

[Min 25-053](#)

January Meeting Minutes

Deana moved to approve the January meeting minutes. Joanne seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

7. Subcommittee Reports

Group discussed Secretary Ana La Scoezec's resignation. No one present wanted to volunteer as Secretary, and they discussed removing that position from their bylaws to hand over responsibility to the Staff Liaison. It was decided to reach out to members not present to see if they are interested, and then decide in March if they will vote in a Secretary or remove the position from bylaws.

a. Legislation & Education (Bianca & Joanne)

Organization, Colorado Center on Law and Policy (CCLP), was shared with the group to look up legislative initiatives and resources.

i. Council Report

Upcoming work schedule was shared with the group, and no DEI initiatives were identified.

ii. Upcoming Proclamations

March 17th:

Child Abuse - Dee Dee

Autism Awareness - Deana

Sexual Assault - Joanne

April 21st:

Mental & Maternal Mental Health - Bianca & America

Asian Pacific Islander - Iona will reach out to a contact

Small Business Week - Joanne (unless already claimed)

Public Service - Scott (unless already claimed)

iii. June Annual City Council Update

Date selected for 6/16 (same date as flag raising)

b. Signature Events (Iona, Deana, Dee Dee)

i. Black History Month movie night debrief

Deana walked through planning and debrief document.

ii. Women's History Month movie event update

Scott offered an idea to encourage folks to come dressed in baseball tees, hats, etc. Group wanted to look into hanging flyers with famous women in history at the event.

iii. Juneteenth update

Planning calendar shared. Will discuss in subcommittee.

c. Recruitment, Engagement & Partnerships (Marco)

Group decided to table at Memorial Day, Adams County PRIDE, Hispanic Heritage, and Fall Fest in 2025.

Group asked staff to get information on volunteer opportunities for other city events, so the group can volunteer for programs focused on DEI efforts.

One new member is set to be appointed by City Council on Monday, so they will be joining us starting in March.

d. Resource Compiling & Spanish Translations (Ana & America)

no update

8. Review of Bylaws

moved to March meeting

9. New Business

Staff has dot business cards to distribute at next events.

Iona moved to reimburse board members attending the Denver March PowWow up to \$14 for their tickets. Deana seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

10. DEIB Team Report

Staff shared what the internal DEIB Team is doing for Women's History Month and Ramadan. The group showed interest in potential flyers being created with famous women in history.

11. March Agenda Setting

Review of bylaws, Secretary nominations, March movie debrief.

12. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.

****Subcommittee Meetings to take place immediately following this meeting.****

There was no time remaining for subcommittee meetings.