

Duluth Human Rights Commission

Wednesday, July 9, 2025 @ 5:30 p.m.
Duluth City Hall Room 430

Public comment will be taken in person. Individuals may also e-mail or mail comments to the Commission prior to the meeting; see contact information at the bottom of the minutes for more information.

1. Call to Order and Introductions
 - a. Meeting called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Chair Ostrander
 - b. Commissioners present: Chair Dr. Nomi Ostrander, Vice Chair Jen Harris, Secretary Amanda Shie, Luis Islas, Tyra Jaramillo-Kraemer
 - c. Commissioners absent: Markus Edgette
 - d. City staff: Human Rights & Equity Officer - Dr. Marsha Lue
 - e. Guest speaker: Duluth Police Chief - Mike Ceynowa
 - f. Community members: Curt Leitz, Kathleen Spencer, Susan Dailey, Mary Lee-Nichols, Josh Thompson, Rochelle Davis, Michelle Naar-Obed, Anna Dilley, Dustin Dilley
2. Acceptance of June Meeting Minutes
 - a. Commissioner Islas moved to approve June minutes, seconded by Vice Chair Harris.
3. Public comments
 - a. None at this time.
4. Guest speaker – Duluth Police Department
 - a. Duluth Police Chief Mike Ceynowa was invited by the Commission to speak on Duluth Police Department's (DPD) involvement with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).
 - i. Chief Ceynowa reiterated that DPD does not work in immigration enforcement and is not authorized to serve as immigration enforcement. There is a DPD policy manual on their website that includes their policy on immigration on page 75, which was written in 2016 with the Interfaith Committee for Migrant Justice.
 - ii. DPD would get involved in these actions only if asked to provide security at an event or large-scale ICE operation to provide protections between possible protestors and ICE. In such situations, DPD would still not be taking any enforcement action.
 - b. Discussion with community members.
 - i. Chief Ceynowa addressed questions and concerns regarding law enforcement identifying themselves, records kept locally, and his lack of ability to track where people are after being detained by ICE. People who see ICE activity and have concerns can ask DPD if they have any

information. DPD does not house inmates for ICE. Community members who have questions are encouraged to call the DPD main office (730-5020), where the call will be directed to Chief Ceynowa or other staff.

5. Committee Reports

a. Executive Team

- i. Executive team met July 8, 2025, via Zoom.
- ii. In attendance: Chair Dr. Nomi Ostrander, Vice Chair Jen Harris, Secretary Amanda Shie

1. Looked over the annual report to city council on 7/21.

b. Findings Committee

- i. Did not have a meeting this month. Moved meeting as there was nothing for Findings this month.

6. New Business

7. Human Rights Office Report

- a. Twin Ports Disability Pride event in Priley Circle. Mayors Payne and Reinert spoke and delivered a proclamation. The Human Rights Office connected with various local and Twin Cities entities.

- b. Wasn't able to table at the Depot last month due to a statewide meeting on legislative updates.

- i. The MN Department of Human Rights budget passed with bipartisan support for the next two years.
- ii. Prohibition on source of income discrimination bill did not pass. Would have prevented landlords from discriminating against folks who receive federal assistance.
- iii. No changes to MN Human Rights Act.
- iv. Hoping to have other meetings to convene statewide Human Rights commissions in the future.

- c. Lots of calls and referrals to different resources using reference document.

8. Announcements and Upcoming Events

a. School District Presentation – August 13, 2025

- i. 30 minutes for presentation on progress regarding rates of minority student suspensions, open to the public. Commissioners are encouraged to think of questions. Other commissions are invited to attend.
- ii. Officer Lue noted that ISD 709 has provided information ahead of time in past years, thought she will ask to receive powerpoint and information a week ahead of time.

- b. July 11-13: Fond du Lac Veterans Powwow.

- c. July 12: Two Harbors Pride.

- d. July 17: Residential Services, Inc. (RSI) has a community connections team that hosts online discussions related to resilience, success, independence, etc.

- e. July 20: Family-friendly Meet in the Park event from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

- f. Labor Day weekend: Duluth-Superior Pride.

- g. October 2: Commitment to Change workshop, hosted by Lake Superior College and Duluth Chamber of Commerce.
- 9. Old Business
 - a. The Commission needs to finalize the Annual Report for July 21 presentation to City Council.
- 10. Additional public comments
 - a. Vice Chair Harris thanked community members who attended as they help provide ideas and collaboration for the Commission. She wants to make herself as available as possible to the community and encourages community to keep up the hope.
- 11. Adjourn
 - a. Commissioner Islas motioned to adjourn; Commissioner Jaramillo-Kraemer seconds. The meeting ends at 6:32 p.m.
 - i. The next meeting is planned for 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 13, 2025, at City Hall Room 430.

Minutes submitted by:
Amanda Shie, Secretary