City of Duluth

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Meeting Agenda - Final

Duluth African Heritage Commission

Thursday, November 5, 2026 **6:00 PM** **City Hall – Lakeside Conference Room (Room 430), 411 West First Street, Duluth, MN 55802**

Welcome and Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

Public Comment

City Staff Report

Black Student Academic Outcomes and District Accountability

The Commission will continue its discussion of Black student academic outcomes following the November 4 meeting with parents and Duluth Public Schools.
● Review key concerns raised by parents, educators, students, and district representatives during the November 4 meeting.
● Discuss Black student MCA proficiency, graduation rates, grading practices, discipline disparities, special education referrals, and access to academic support.
● Identify commitments made by the district and any concerns that remain unresolved.
● Define the Commission's role in supporting families, monitoring progress, elevating community concerns, and holding the district accountable.
● Establish specific requests, next steps, responsible commissioners, and a timeline for follow-up with district leadership and the School Board.

Community Initiatives and Partner Invitations

● Receive an update on outreach to Parks and Recreation.
● Coordinate invitations to Parks and Recreation and the Fire Department for an upcoming Commission meeting.
● Identify requests related to nature access, foraging activities, the proposed Yellow Bike program, and March CPR training.
● Review Commissioner Izala's outreach to Black Forager and opportunities to partner with the Indigenous Commission on traditional plant gardens.
● Assign next steps for the January and February bike donation drive, including collection, storage, and repairs.

School District Partnership and Youth Activities

● Review proposed requests for ISD 709 related to resource navigation, clean clothing, student well-being, and parent support.
● Identify a district representative to invite to a future Commission meeting.
● Assign outreach to the YMCA and ISD 709 regarding swim lessons and lifeguard training, including hiring timelines, pay, and training requirements.
● Review plans for spring chess and Dungeons & Dragons clubs at Family Freedom Center, including facilitators and volunteer background checks.
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New Business

● Confirm priorities and partner presentations for upcoming meetings.
● Confirm the December meeting date.
● Review action items, responsible commissioners, and deadlines.

Next Meeting - December 10, 2026, in Room 430, 6-7:30 pm

Adjourn