

# City of Duluth Planning Commission Annual Meeting Summary

Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m.  
Portman Community Center

## Call to Order

Vice President Andrea Wedul called to order the meeting of the city of Duluth Planning Commission at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026, in the Duluth Portman Community Center.

## Roll Call

Members Present: Chris Adatte, Nik Bayuk, Jason Crawford, Danielle Rhodes, Dave Sarvela, Kate Van Daele, and Andrea Wedul

Members Absent: Gary Eckenberg and Brian Hammond

Staff Present: Amanda Mangan, Tricia Hobbs, Jenn Moses, Chris Lee, Christian Huelsman, Reina Owecke, Tricia Hobbs, Kyle Deming, Ben Van Tassel, and Sam Smith

## Guest Speaker: Tricia Hobbs, “Economic Development Priorities in 2026”

Tricia Hobbs gave a presentation on the City of Duluth’s economic development goals and priorities in 2026. Priorities include tax base growth, building balanced neighborhoods, and downtown revitalization. Hobbs talked about the various roles that planning and economic development staff play in projects that come through Duluth. She highlighted team successes as well as areas for opportunity, and she explained how her staff plan to address the current economic and community needs by collaborating with other city departments and community members. Discussion ensued regarding housing needs and common obstacles that developers face in Duluth, as well as potential strategies that can be utilized to ensure successful projects in the future.

## Zenith Award Nominations & Vote

Chris Lee presented a list of potential nominees for the 2026 Zenith awards. Discussion about the projects ensued amongst the commissioners.

Commissioners nominated Force on Fifth and Simco Apartments to receive the 2026 Zenith awards.

**MOTION/Second:** Rhodes/Van Daele approved

**VOTE: (7-0)**

## Election of Officers

Nominations for President: Andrea Wedul

**MOTION/Second:** Andrea Wedul is elected to serve as President by unanimous consent

**VOTE: (7-0)**

Nominations for Vice President: Dave Sarvela

**MOTION/Second:** Dave Sarvela is elected to serve as Vice President by unanimous consent

**VOTE: (7-0)**

## **Recognition of Outgoing Commissioners**

Commissioners Crawford, Eckenberg, and Rhodes each have terms that expire on March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Staff presented certificates of appreciation for Crawford and Rhodes and thanked them for their time served on the commission. Eckenberg will be recognized at the regular March meeting.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Respectfully,

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Jenn Moses, Manager  
Planning & Economic Development