



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA  
NOVEMBER 12, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



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*The City of Fairbanks recognizes that our community is a diverse one, with a wide variety of ethnic backgrounds, cultures, beliefs and orientations and recognizes this diversity as an asset and resource for our community. The establishment of a Fairbanks Diversity Council can provide the City Council and Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly with advice and recommendations to promote equal opportunity for all members of the public.*

1. CALL TO ORDER & READING OF THE FDC MISSION STATEMENT
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. CITIZENS' COMMENTS (Limited to 3 Minutes)
6. MAYOR'S COMMENTS & REPORT
  - a) Introduction of New Members
  - b) Changes to FDC Membership/Make-up (City Ordinance No. 6114) and Future FDC Work Session
7. FIVE-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS (Representatives from: City Council, Fairbanks North Star Borough, Military, Indigenous People, and FNSB School District)
8. CALENDAR OF EVENTS
9. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
  - a) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2019
  - b) Regular Meeting Minutes of September 10, 2019
  - c) Regular Meeting Minutes of October 8, 2019
10. HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT
  - a) Report by Police Chief Reeder on Officer Training
11. DIVERSITY TOPIC OF THE MONTH
12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - a) FDC Confirmation of Appointment of Second Vice Chairperson
  - b) Discussion on Court System Data Collection in the Jury Selection Process
  - c) Member Acknowledgement of FDC Purpose and Role
13. NEW BUSINESS
14. FDC COMMITTEE REPORTS
15. FDC MEMBERS' COMMENTS
16. MEETING DATES
  - a) Next Regular Meeting Date, December 10, 2019
17. ADJOURNMENT

**ORDINANCE NO. 6114**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FAIRBANKS GENERAL CODE  
SECTIONS 2-232 AND 2-233 REGARDING COMPOSITION AND  
QUORUM OF THE FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, the Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC) was established on March 10, 2014, by the City Council's adoption of Ordinance No. 5939; and

**WHEREAS**, the FDC is currently comprised of 15 public voting members, three of which are appointed by the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and three non-voting members to include the City Mayor, a City Council Member, and the City Human Resources Director; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council discussed reducing the size and altering the composition of the FDC during the City Council's review of City Boards and Commissions in August and September 2019.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA**, as follows:

**SECTION 1.** That Fairbanks General Code Sections 2-232 and 2-233 are hereby amended as follows [new text in **underlined/bold** font; deleted text in ~~strikethrough~~ font]:

**Sec. 2-232. – Composition; term of office.**

(a) The FDC shall include **11**~~15~~ public voting members broadly selected to represent the diverse people of Fairbanks. **Ten**~~Twelve~~ community members shall be appointed by the city mayor subject to the approval of the city council. **One**~~Three~~ community members shall be appointed by the Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor, subject to the approval of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly. Preference for city-appointed positions shall be given to residents of the City of Fairbanks. All appointments of the public members shall be for three-year terms, without compensation. The term of members shall be until June 30 of the third year from appointment. ~~The first members of the commission shall be appointed in staggering terms that end on June 30 as follows: five members for a term of one year, five members for a term of two years, and five members for a term of three years.~~

(b) In the event of the death, resignation, removal, or disqualification of any member of the FDC, the city mayor or Fairbanks North Star Borough Mayor, as the case may be, shall appoint to the FDC, subject to confirmation by the city council or borough assembly, as the case may be, a member who shall serve for the unexpired term vacated.

(c) The city attorney or designee shall be made available upon request to provide information, not to act as legal counsel, to the FDC.

\* \* \* \* \*

**Sec. 2-233. – Chairperson; committees; quorum; meetings.**

(a) The city mayor shall serve as non-voting chairperson. A first vice-chairperson and a second vice-chairperson shall initially be appointed by the city mayor from the membership, subject to the approval of the FDC. Following initial appointments, vice-chairpersons will serve one year in each position progressively: second vice-chairperson, first vice-chairperson, then past vice-chairperson. A new second vice-chairperson will be appointed by the city mayor every July, with approval of the membership. Upon approval of the appointment, the progression of vice-chairpersons will take place. If a vice-chairperson vacates their position before the progression is complete, the city mayor will appoint a replacement, subject to the approval of the membership.

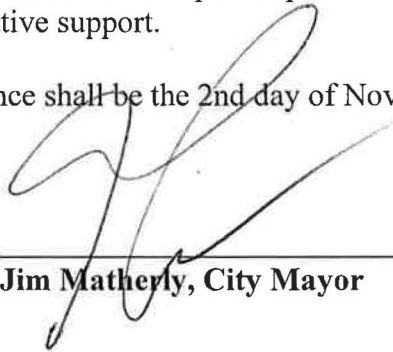
(b) The FDC may organize committees and adopt administrative rules and procedures to accomplish its purposes.

(c) A quorum shall be necessary to conduct a meeting. A quorum shall consist of ~~six~~eight public voting members of the FDC. The business of the FDC shall be transacted by a majority vote of voting members present after a quorum is established.

(d) All meetings shall be held, and notices and agendas shall be posted, in compliance with the Alaska Open Meetings Act. Minutes of FDC proceedings shall be kept and filed in accordance with applicable laws dealing with public records. In all matters of parliamentary procedure not covered by rules and procedures adopted under subsection (b) above, the current version of Robert's Rules of Order will govern.

(e) The FDC shall keep permanent records or minutes of all meetings. The minutes shall promptly be filed in the office of the city clerk and shall be open to public inspection. The city clerk shall supply the FDC with administrative support.

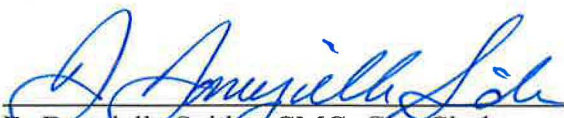
**SECTION 2.** That the effective date of this Ordinance shall be the 2nd day of November 2019.



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**Jim Matherly, City Mayor**

YEAS: Gibson, Therrien, Pruhs, Matherly  
NAYS: Rogers, Kun  
ABSENT: Cleworth  
ADOPTED: October 28, 2019

ATTEST:  


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D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  


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Paul J. Ewers, City Attorney



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 9, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



The Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC) convened at 5:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Mayor Jim Matherly (left at 6:49 p.m.) presiding and with the following members in attendance:

Members Present:     Montean Jackson, Seat C                             Doug Toelle, Seat J  
                           Juanita Webb, Seat D                             Sara Harriger, Seat K  
                           Shelissa Thomas, Seat E                             Kelvin Lee, Seat O (at 5:45)  
                           David Rucker, Seat G                             June Rogers, Councilmember (at 5:49)  
                           Stephen Greenlaw, Seat I (telephonic)     Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director

Members Absent:    Zee Nace, Seat A                             Rita Davis, Seat L (excused)  
                           Lisa Slayton, Seat B (excused)             Jeff Walters, Seat M (excused)  
                           Vacant, Seat F                             Vacant, Seat N  
                           Vacant, Seat H

Also Present:         D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk             Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff

**CALL TO ORDER & READING OF THE FDC MISSION STATEMENT**

Clerk Snider read the FDC Mission Statement into the record.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Chair Matherly** asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*This item was addressed after Mayor's Comments and Report as there was a lack of quorum at the start of the meeting.*

**Mr. Toelle**, seconded by **Ms. Webb**, moved to APPROVE the agenda.

**Ms. Harriger** requested to add to New Business a memorandum regarding the FDC purpose.

**Chair Matherly** called for objection to APPROVING the Agenda, as Amended, and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

**CITIZENS' COMMENTS** (Limited to 3 Minutes)

**Frank Turney**, 1434 Lacey Street, #B, Fairbanks – Mr. Turney spoke to racial discrimination in the jury pool, and he stated he would like the FDC to produce a resolution in support of jury data

collection by the state. He stated he enjoyed the Public Safety Commission (PSC) meeting earlier that day.

Hearing no more requests for comment, **Chair Matherly** declared Citizens' Comments closed.

### **MAYOR'S COMMENTS & REPORT**

**Chair Matherly** stated that the reason the FDC did not dig further into the jury discrimination and data collection issue is because former member Marna Sanford did some research and thought it was too big an issue for the FDC. He stated he does not know enough about the subject to opine on it, but the FDC may address it. He stated that he will talk with Ms. Harriger and Ms. Jackson to see if they believe the FDC should address it. **Chair Matherly** stated that the City Council recently asked the administration for a review of all City board and commissions; he stated that staff and Council will go through each City board and commission to determine viability, whether changes need to be made, etc. He asked FDC members to think about things and bring any ideas forward. He explained that after the review, the Clerk's Office will hold training sessions for new board and commission members. **Chair Matherly** stated that his thoughts have been with firefighting teams across Alaska and stated that the Alaska has the largest amount of fires in all the U.S. He cautioned folks to use extreme caution so as to avoid starting fires. He shared that Fairbanks Memorial Hospital has opened up a respite room for people in need of relief from the smoky air.

*Mr. Lee arrived, and the FDC had a quorum. Approval of the Agenda was addressed here.*

**Chair Matherly** shared that Police Chief Reeder intended to be at the meeting, but her movers arrived earlier in the day so she was not able to attend.

**FIVE-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS** (Representatives from: City Council, Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB), Military, Indigenous People, and FNSB School District)

**Mr. Rucker** stated that the FNSB School District is hiring for the upcoming year, and HR has been swamped trying to fill vacancies. He stated the District is still looking at policies on diversity and inclusion, and the School Board may take a look at policies and administrative regulations around September.

**Chair Matherly** reported that there was some emotion at the previous evening's Council Meeting over the tax cap issue and discussions about the Governor's vetoes. He stated he was instructed by the City Council to send a letter to the state legislature supporting overriding the Governor's vetoes. He indicated that his biggest issue with the vetoes was the significant cuts to the UAF budget. He encouraged the Interior Delegation to support only a \$5 million cut to UAF instead of a \$140 million cut.

**Mr. Lee** stated that he will attend the next Borough Assembly meeting.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Chair Matherly** stated that Golden Days events are happening the weekend of July 20. He shared that the Intertribal Powwow also coming up.

**Mr. Rucker** asked whether the FDC will have a presence at the Golden Days parade.

**Ms. Jackson** stated that the Juneteenth Celebration was an awesome event, and she saw some FDC members there. She stated that the buttons Ms. Foster-Snow and Ms. Snider made for FDC members to wear got lost and requested that more buttons be made. She stated that she believes the buttons were a success. **Ms. Foster-Snow** stated that more buttons can be made and that FDC members can pick them up at City Hall to wear at the Golden Days parade, even if the FDC does not host a table.

**Ms. Rogers** shared that the World Eskimo-Indian Olympics (WEIO) is coming up soon, but she is not sure of the dates.

**Ms. Harriger** reminded members that the American Red Cross Chief Diversity Officer will be at the Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center for a community presentation on July 15; she stated he invited the FDC to meet him for coffee at 10:30 a.m.

Clerk Snider stated that WEIO will be July 17 – 20.

**Mr. Rucker** reminded everyone that the National Coalition Building Institute will hold another District-sponsored immersion training in September. He requested that anyone who is interested email him at [david.rucker@k12northstar.org](mailto:david.rucker@k12northstar.org).

Clerk Snider shared that the recent candidate open house hosted by the City of Fairbanks, the FNSB, and the City of North Pole was a success. She announced that candidate filing for all three local governments will open on Monday, July 15 and will close on Monday, July 29.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

- a) Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2019
- b) Regular Meeting Minutes of June 11, 2019

**Mr. Toelle**, seconded by **Mr. Rucker**, moved to APPROVE both sets of meeting minutes.

**Chair Matherly** called for objection to APPROVING the Meeting Minutes, and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

**Ms. Foster-Snow** shared that there are still some vacancies at the Fairbanks Police Department (FPD), but the department is getting some great applicants. She stated that two offers for hire have been given within the past week and that one of the candidates for Chief of Police has applied and has been given an employment offer. She announced that two lateral hires will be joining the force within the next few days. She stated that the City Council approved a signing bonus for the Dispatch Department, and it has been met with a great response. She stated that dispatch training is extensive, so getting people on board who have some experience and require less training is good. She shared that Dispatch should have all 8 vacancies filled within the next three months.

**Ms. Foster-Snow** stated that the Deputy City Attorney position will be opening, and there is an accounting position open in the Finance Department. She shared that the job application process can be done online and invited those interested to visit the City's website.

**Chair Matherly** and **Ms. Foster-Snow** spoke to the collaboration between Chief Reeder and the Anchorage Police Department for hiring and training of FPD officers.

### **DIVERSITY TOPIC OF THE MONTH**

**Chair Matherly** stated that there is no topic for July. He stated that if members are interested, the FDC can discuss the jury issue as the topic of the month for August.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Ms. Jackson** stated that at the last meeting, two young ladies spoke to the FDC. She stated that Ms. Rogers provided outreach to them to connect them with someone at the News Miner. **Ms. Jackson** questioned what is expected of the FDC when people come and present issues. She commented that she would not like to see people walk away without having their expectations fulfilled.

**Ms. Harriger** wondered if the FDC should keep a record of recurrent issues or particularly urgent issues. She stated that if issues were tracked, the FDC may be able to funnel concerns through to the City Council.

**Ms. Thomas** stated that does not answer Ms. Jackson's question. She suggested that it would be nice to have a follow up from a member of the FDC who could do research and provide resources.

**Chair Matherly** stated he could check with Chief Reeder to see if she has followed up with the two young women who spoke at the last meeting.

**Ms. Rogers** agreed that maybe there could be a system in place for follow-up. She recalled a previous situation, and stated that the help that came to the family was from people on the Council and people in the audience.

**Ms. Jackson** suggested that FDC members ask individuals what they would like to see happen at the end of their testimony and that people should not feel their concerns are falling on deaf ears.

Clerk Snider suggested that members who feel that follow-up is needed after hearing the testimony of a public member raise the issue during their comments near the end of the meeting. She stated that the FDC can then determine whether an action is appropriate, whether a referral is needed, or whether City staff may be able to help. Members concurred with Clerk Snider's recommendation.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

a) Appointment of Second Vice Chairperson

**Chair Matherly** stated that he is not prepared to appoint a Second Vice Chairperson. He asked that the item be placed on the August FDC agenda.

b) Memorandum Acknowledging FDC Purpose and Role

**Ms. Harriger** stated that the memo came about to reiterate the role and purpose of the FDC. She read the memorandum into the record. She stated that it is intended as a springboard for discussion on whether the FDC needs to address any issues. Members discussed other ways the memorandum could be used to help educate FDC members and the public on what the FDC does.

**Mr. Rucker** pointed out that a correction regarding a majority vote may be needed in the third acknowledgement. Clerk Snider concurred and stated the correction would be made.

**Ms. Thomas** stated that the last meeting was recorded by an audience member in a vicious manner. She asked what the policy is on recording meetings. Clerk Snider stated that FDC meetings are open to the public, and the public has a right to record during public meetings. **Ms. Jackson** suggested that it may be helpful to provide a disclosure to inform attendees that meetings may be recorded. She also suggested that FDC members be asked to read and sign the memorandum of acknowledgement upon appointment to the FDC.

**Ms. Rogers** pointed out that this discussion certifies that the FDC does not operate behind closed doors. She stated she is happy the FDC is not being accused of holding private meetings.

**Ms. Thomas** stated that the last meeting was recorded, posted, and painted in a derogatory way, and she was concerned for the FDC. She stated the way the video was edited may cause a person to think the FDC is doing some malicious things.

**Ms. Harriger** suggested that this may be a common problem, and she believes the best way to address it is to be even more transparent and livestream FDC meetings.

**Chair Matherly** stated that some people have harmful intentions, and the FDC cannot control that. He stated that video streaming may be something the FDC would like to consider. **Mr. Greenlaw** stated that accessibility is under the purview of the FDC and that he believes streaming the meeting is a good idea. **Ms. Thomas** stated that it is a social media era, and she supports the idea.

**Chair Matherly** stated that as Chair, it is difficult to keep order at times when people are emotionally charged. He stated that the responsibility to maintain order falls upon him, and he apologized. He stated that the memorandum is a good reminder of what is expected of the FDC.

**Ms. Thomas** questioned how others are expected to maintain a standard of behavior when FDC members cannot set an example. She asked whether there are consequences for unruly behavior.

**Chair Matherly** stated that he needed to be excused for a family emergency. **Ms. Harriger** took over chairing the meeting.

Clerk Snider responded to Ms. Thomas' question regarding consequences for poor member behavior. She stated that in such situations, the FDC could make a recommendation to the Mayor for a warning or a reprimand or make a recommendation to the City Council for removal. She stated that FDC members can only be confirmed and removed by the City Council.



**Ms. Webb** stated that FDC members bear some responsibility to keep each other in check. She stated that two members spoke up at the last meeting to remind others about rules and decorum.

**Ms. Harriger** stated the situation is part of the reason for the memorandum. She stated the memo should be a part of the FDC in the future. She stated she wants the FDC to be a well-oiled machine that gets things done.

**Mr. Greenlaw** requested that the memorandum be emailed to each member.

**Ms. Jackson** stated she would like to know whether an explanation will be provided to the City Council that all new members will be required to sign the memorandum. **Ms. Harriger** indicated that could be added to the memorandum. **Ms. Rogers** stated that it is common to see a signed agreement or commitment from new members when they enter an organization or join a board. She stated she does not believe it will be viewed negatively.

**Mr. Rucker**, seconded by **Ms. Jackson**, moved to APPROVE the Memorandum of Acknowledgement and forward it to the City Council.

**Ms. Jackson**, seconded by **Mr. Toelle**, move to AMEND the memorandum by adding item #7 to state that all new and current FDC members will sign in acknowledgement of the memorandum.

**Ms. Harriger** took a voice vote on the motion to AMEND the memorandum by adding item #7. The motion PASSED unanimously.

**Ms. Rogers** stated that she would like to see the word “deliberative” added to item #3 as a descriptive term to the FDC as a body. **Mr. Rucker** expressed concern with the term deliberative. He stated that it may be too much since the FDC is an advisory body.

**Ms. Harriger** stated she would like to see some language about the FDC being a safe place for people to talk. **Ms. Webb** stated she believes that item #6 already indicates the same.

**Ms. Thomas** again expressed concern there were no consequences for what occurred at the last meeting. **Mr. Rucker** stated that one-on-one conversations were had after the last meeting. He stated that it was a heated moment for those involved, and as soon as other members spoke up at the meeting, there was a change in demeanor.

**Ms. Harriger** called for objection to APPROVING the Memorandum of Acknowledgement and forwarding it to the City Council, and, hearing none, so ORDERED.

Clerk Snider stated that she will send the memorandum to members via email, and members may return signed memos to the City Clerk’s Office.

## **FDC COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Mr. Toelle** stated that there will be no July or August Accessibility Committee meetings.

**Ms. Harriger** asked whether the July Education and Outreach Committee meeting should be canceled due to lack of agenda items. **Mr. Rucker** spoke in support of cancellation, and no members objected to cancellation.

### **FDC MEMBERS' COMMENTS**

**Ms. Webb** stated that the Governor's cuts to UAF were big and that 28 of the Governor's vetoes affect the disability community. She stated she heard that the women's shelter has had to turn people away; she stated a lot of services throughout the community will be shut down. She stated she fully supports putting together a resolution on the discrimination in jury selection issue. She also expressed support for following up with people who testify to the FDC.

**Mr. Toelle** stated that UAF is getting the spotlight for the Governor's budget cuts, but many services and arts programs are also being cut. He stated he is happy the Mayor is doing something about it. He stated that as of recently, he is no longer with Access Alaska and he is dealing more with his tourism business.

**Ms. Jackson** echoed Ms. Webb's comments about the state budget and stated the recent forum at Pioneer Park was very eye-opening. She spoke to the ripple effects that will occur throughout the state affecting senior citizens, the homeless population, women and children, and more. As a follow-up to the last FDC meeting, she read the following statement about tolerance: *Tolerance helps us to accept differences and frees us from being judgmental. It is recognizing that all people have feelings, needs, hopes, and dream. Tolerance is an appreciation for diversity, whether of culture or temperament. It leads to unity. It is being patient and forgiving while others make mistakes, while calling on discernment to know when to stand up for justice.* **Ms. Jackson** stated that people make mistakes, and forgiveness is divine. She expressed hope that everyone can come to the table, put passions to the side, and be an involved part of the collective.

**Ms. Thomas** stated she works with military families moving to Fairbanks, and one of their concerns is that Fairbanks is an isolated place where there is nothing to do. She spoke in support of the community pulling together to help Fairbanks grow. She indicated that with substance abuse being prevalent, it is important for youth to have things to do. She spoke to the need for more family activities in Fairbanks.

**Mr. Lee** stated he has been a member of the FDC for some time, and it has been a pleasure. He stated he would like the FDC to continue to be a part of something great, and he likes the idea of hearing peoples' concerns and following up with them.

**Ms. Harriger** thanked everyone for the discussion and stated there have been some good ideas.

**Ms. Rogers** stated she has heard many comments about the Governor's vetoes, and she encouraged everyone to contact state legislators, and she spoke to the need for people to establish working relationships with those who are making decisions that affect the state. In regard to Ms. Thomas' comments about community activities, she stated that everyone has an obligation to inform others of the activities that are already established in the community and promote a list of positive community activities.

**Mr. Greenlaw** stated that he is currently in Kotzebue where the temperature is 85 degrees. He stated that he hears people say there is not a lot to do in Fairbanks, but he stated there are a lot of community activities. He noted that the Governor's vetoes will impact marginalized communities and students. He stated the FDC will need to keep its ears open for those who will be impacted. He stated he is glad to hear a letter is being sent from the Mayor and City Council in support of overriding the Governor's vetoes.

**Mr. Rucker** expressed concern that even if the legislature works out a deal over the next few months, it will mean cuts to the most vulnerable populations, the homeless and the poor. He stated that police will have to learn how to deal with individuals who may not be taking needed medications. He stated that the new Chief of Police mentioned that she is interested in that type of training for the force, but he believes it needs to become a priority in light of the cuts.

**Ms. Harriger** asked whether the FDC would like to take some sort of action in regard to the state budget.

**Ms. Jackson** stated that she would like to continue receiving updates on what the City Council and City administration is doing. She asked Ms. Rogers to supply any updates at next meeting.

### **MEETING DATES**

a) The next Regular Meeting of the FDC is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13, 2019

**Ms. Harriger** suggested that the DAP review work session be held from 9 a.m. – noon on September 21. No members objected to the meeting date. **Ms. Harriger** requested that members mark their calendars.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Toelle**, seconded by **Ms. Thomas**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

Hearing no objection, **Ms. Harriger** declared the meeting  
ADJOURNED at 7:40 p.m.

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Jim Matherly, Mayor/Chair

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D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

Transcribed by: DS



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.  
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



The **Fairbanks Diversity Council** (FDC) convened at 5:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Vice Chair Sara Harriger (Seat K) presiding and with the following members in attendance:

Members Present: Juanita Webb, Seat D (telephonic) Jeff Walters, Seat M  
David Rucker, Seat G Kelvin Lee, Seat O  
Doug Toelle, Seat J June Rogers, Councilmember  
Rita Davis, Seat L Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director

Members Absent: Vacant, Seat A Vacant, Seat H  
Lisa Slayton, Seat B Vacant, Seat I  
Montean Jackson, Seat C Vacant, Seat N  
Shelissa Thomas, Seat E (excused) Jim Matherly, Mayor/Chair (excused)  
Vacant, Seat F

Also Present: Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff

### **CALL TO ORDER & READING OF THE FDC MISSION STATEMENT**

**Vice Chair Harriger** called the meeting to order; she stated there is not a quorum. She asked for a volunteer to read the FDC Mission Statement. **Ms. Rogers** volunteered and read it aloud.

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**Vice Chair Harriger** led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*The agenda could not be approved as there was no quorum.*

**Vice Chair Harriger** shared that the meeting was designed to be brief to allow folks to attend the Interior Taxpayers' Association (ITA) local candidate forum which begins at 6:30 p.m.

### **CITIZENS' COMMENTS** (Limited to 3 Minutes)

Allen Mitchell, 2663 Turner Street, Fairbanks – Mr. Mitchell stated someone suggested that he bring his issue to the FDC. He stated he is concerned with the location of the City snow dump on South Cushman Street where "Reflections" used to be. He stated that the location causes there to be less appeal for South Fairbanks. He suggested that the location be used for another purpose, such as a grocery store. He indicated that residents on the South Side may feel that the City does not care about them. He stated that the snow dump location is on prime real estate.

**Ms. Rogers** asked Mr. Mitchell if he could return to City Hall to speak to the City Council. **Mr. Walters** asked when the City started using the site as a snow dump. Mr. Mitchell stated the City just finished prepping the site for snow dump use.

**Ms. Rogers** explained how the site came to be a snow dump site for the City of Fairbanks and spoke to some of the challenges with snow removal. Chief of Staff Mike Meeks stated that the City has lost some snow dumps over the past several years, and it gained two recently, including the “Reflections” site. He explained the process by which the City purchases property to use as a snow dump. *Mr. Toelle commented, but his comments were inaudible.*

## **MAYOR’S COMMENTS & REPORT**

### a) Update on City Council Review of City Boards and Commissions

**Ms. Rogers** stated that the City Council has held a couple of sessions on Board and Commission review. She reported the City Council was made aware that the FDC has a plan to review the Diversity Action Plan. **Vice Chair Harriger** stated she heard that there was some concern about member attendance; **Ms. Rogers** stated that there has also been concern by the FDC regarding member attendance. **Vice Chair Harriger** pointed out that there are currently five vacancies on the FDC, which makes it more challenging to meet quorum. She stated she also heard that the City Council is considering reducing the FDC membership. **Ms. Rogers** stated that the direction of the City Council was to reduce the membership to twelve voting members. **Mr. Rucker** stated that the School District’s Diversity Committee currently has several vacancies as well. *Ms. Davis commented, but her comments were inaudible.* **Mr. Walters** requested that the FDC be given an opportunity to weigh in prior to any major changes being made to the FDC by the City Council.

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Mr. Rucker** stated the School District will be hosting community engagement sessions for each of the high schools in the Borough. He stated that details and dates were in a recent press release.

**Ms. Rogers** stated that July 8 was National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Day. She spoke to the importance of awareness in the community and to the work being done locally.

## **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

### a) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2019

*The minutes could not be approved as there was no quorum.*

## **HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

**Ms. Foster-Snow** stated that the City is actively recruiting for the position of Chief Financial Officer. She stated the City is also still looking to fill the Deputy City Attorney position. She stated there is open recruitment for the Dispatch and Police Departments.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**Mr. Walters** stated that he missed the June and July FDC meetings. In reference to the “Acknowledgement of the FDC Purpose and Role” memorandum that FDC members are being asked to sign, he asked whether other City Board and Commission members were being asked to sign a similar statement. He stated that the acknowledgement seems benign, but he does not want it to become a barrier to someone volunteering to serve on the FDC – especially with all the current vacancies. **Mr. Lee** stated that the basis for the conversation surrounding the acknowledgement was for accountability. **Ms. Rogers** stated that it is an opportune time for an acknowledgement of protocol by all City committee members. **Mr. Rucker** spoke in favor of the acknowledgement; he spoke to the importance of members maintaining order and keeping emotions in check at meetings. **Mr. Toelle** expressed hope that applicants were being given expectations at the point of entry during the interview process. **Mr. Walters** expressed concern with having members sign the acknowledgement. **Ms. Rogers** stated that it is rather common for committee members to sign a document acknowledging expectations. **Vice Chair Harriger** stated she does not believe it would hurt to ask members to agree to the protocol.

## FDC MEMBERS’ COMMENTS

**Mr. Walters** shared that the Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) organization sent out a questionnaire to potential candidates for City Council, Borough Assembly, and City Mayor. He stated the results of the questionnaire were available at the PFLAG booth at the Tanana Valley State Fair. He stated that the organization does not endorse any particular candidate(s), and each candidate’s response was made available to the public at the fair. He stated he would be happy to share the results of the questionnaire with anyone.

## MEETING DATES

- a) FDC Work Session for Diversity Action Plan Review, Saturday, September 21, 2019

**Vice Chair Harriger** reminded everyone of the upcoming Work Session.

- b) Next Regular Meeting Date, October 8, 2019

**Vice Chair Harriger** stated the next regular meeting is scheduled for October 8. She proposed that the next Education & Outreach and Accessibility Committee meetings to be combined on September 19 to discuss the possibility of live-streaming FDC meetings on Facebook. She stated she hopes the group can bring back a recommendation to the FDC. **Ms. Rogers** stated that she could see potential problems with live-streaming meetings, and she suggested that the City Attorney be consulted.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Vice Chair Harriger** thanked everyone who attended and stated that it was a good turnout for having so many vacancies.

**Ms. Rogers** asked whether quorum could be determined in a different way, possibly not taking vacancies into account.

**Mr. Toelle**, seconded by **Mr. Rucker**, moved to ADJOURN the meeting.

Hearing no objection, **Vice Chair Harriger** declared the meeting  
ADJOURNED at 6:13 p.m.

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Jim Matherly, Mayor/Chair

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D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

Transcribed by: DS

DRAFT



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL  
 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
 OCTOBER 8, 2019 – 5:30 P.M.  
 FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
 800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



The **Fairbanks Diversity Council** (FDC) convened at 5:30 p.m. on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska, with Mayor Jim Matherly presiding and with the following members in attendance:

Members Present:	Juanita Webb, Seat D Shelissa Thomas, Seat E David Rucker, Seat G Sara Harriger, Seat K	Rita Davis, Seat L Jeff Walters, Seat M June Rogers, Councilmember
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Members Absent:	Vacant, Seat A Vacant, Seat B Montean Jackson, Seat C Vacant, Seat F Vacant, Seat H	Vacant, Seat I Doug Toelle, Seat J (excused) Vacant, Seat N Kelvin Lee, Seat O Angela Foster-Snow, HR Director
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Also Present:	Mike Meeks, Chief of Staff Paul Ewers, City Attorney	D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk Nancy Reeder, Police Chief
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**Chair Matherly** stated that eight voting members are required for a quorum, and only six voting members were present. He stated that the Fairbanks General Code (FGC) states that a quorum is necessary to conduct a meeting. He stated that he would wait until 5:45 p.m. to see if more members arrive.

At 5:45 p.m., **Chair Matherly** dismissed the FDC as there was still no quorum present.

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Jim Matherly, Mayor/Chair

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D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

Transcribed by: DS





## MEMORANDUM

To: Fairbanks City Council  
From: Mayor Matherly and the Fairbanks Diversity Council  
Subject: Fairbanks Diversity Council Acknowledgement of Purpose and Role  
Date: July 9, 2019

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The FDC acknowledges the following:

1. The FDC was formed by the Fairbanks City Council under the administration of Mayor John Eberhart in 2014.
2. The purpose of the FDC is to provide a citizens' forum; serve as a diversity advisory board, recommend adoption of a Diversity Action Plan (DAP); assist the City on accessibility issues; plan, develop, and implement recognition and public awareness programs; develop working relationships with sectors of the community; address concerns in areas of employment, public accommodations, police policies, transportation, housing, and public awareness and sensitivity; and provide written recommendations to the public and written reports to the Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) Assembly and Fairbanks City Council.
3. The FDC is a non-partisan body. Its official position statements and recommendations must be supported by a majority vote of the FDC.
4. The FDC is an advisory body with members serving at the will of the Fairbanks City Council and FNSB Assembly. It does not have authority over elected officials.
5. The FDC may adopt administrative rules and procedures to accomplish its purpose; Robert's Rules of Order will govern in matters of parliamentary procedure not covered by adopted FDC rules and procedures.
6. FDC members are representatives of the City and the FNSB and are expected to follow rules of procedure during meetings, be open to different points of view, and act in a professional, respectful manner with each other, members of the public, City employees, and elected officials.
7. All currently-seated FDC members (as of the date of this memorandum) and all future members (upon appointment) will be required to sign this acknowledgement of the FDC purpose and role.

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FDC Member Printed Name

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FDC Member Signature

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Date