



**New Brighton Equity Commission  
Agenda  
Upper Level | Conference Room  
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN  
6:30 PM May 15, 2025**

Members of the Equity Commission will attend the meeting in person unless eligible to attend remotely per MN Stat. 13D.02.

To participate in this meeting, members of the public may:

- **Attend the meeting in person.**
  
- **Watch the meeting electronically.** Tune into CTV Channel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast). To observe the meeting as a livestream or a webcast, visit [www.newbrightonmn.gov](http://www.newbrightonmn.gov) and click on “I Want To View a Public Meeting.”

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Kami Miller	Commissioner Carlos Herrera
Vice Chair Cathy Forbes	Commissioner Michael Postle
Commissioner Kisten Thompson	Commissioner Melissa Spiess
Commissioner Ellen Weber	Commissioner Sophie Jung
Commissioner Liz Hicks	

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**III. Approval of Past Minutes**

- a. April 17, 2025

**IV. Business Items**

- a. Structuring Connections

**V. City Staff Update**

**VI. Chair Update**

**VII. City Council Update**

## **VIII. Adjournment**

- a. Next Meeting: July 17, 2025



**MINUTES**  
**New Brighton Equity Commission**  
**Regular Meeting – April 17, 2025**  
**6:30 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. Roll Call**

Members Present: Commissioners Cathy Forbes, Carlos Herrera, Liz Erstad-Hicks, Sophie Jung, Michael Postle, Melissa Spiess and Ellen Weber.

Members Absent: Commissioners Kami Miller and Kisten Thompson

Also Present: DEI Coordinator Hue Schlieu and Councilmember Emily Dunsworth

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Forbes, seconded by Commissioner Hicks to approve the agenda as amended noting Commissioner Kami Miller is the Vice Chair, including Erstad in Commissioner Erstad-Hicks' name.

Approved 7-0

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Forbes, seconded by Commissioner Weber to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2025 meeting.

Approved 7-0

**V. Business Items**

**A. 2025-2026 Work Plan**

Schlieu stated at the beginning of each Equity Commission year, Commissioners review and finalize the annual work plan to ensure the Equity Commission is exercising its roles of learning, representing the community, advising staff, providing feedback on policies, etc. to ensure it is effectively influencing the City's equity efforts. She discussed the Council's directives for the Equity Commission noting this group was an advising group. It was noted the three pillars for the Equity Commission were influence, education and service. It was noted the Second Annual Commissioner Forum would be held on September 30 in Minnetonka. Staff reviewed the proposed work plan for the coming year in detail with the Commission and requested feedback.

Discussion included:

- The Commission suggested having Native performers be included in cultural dance performance events. Schlieu reported the Mounds View School District would be hosting a pow wow on Saturday, April 26.
- The Commission was supportive of the community hosting the Tibetan Fest.
- The Commission appreciated the fact the City was pursuing Youth Community Connectors.
- The increasing diversity in the community was discussed.
- The Equity Commission looked forward to further discussing the City's housing policy and transportation options for the community.
- The Equity Commission supported having a listening table at the farmer's market.
- The importance and expense of quality childcare in the community was discussed.
- Staff commented on the scholarships and other opportunities that were available for Park and Recreation programming.
- The Commission discussed the importance of community engagement, especially with those dwelling in apartments.
- The Commission supported taking a look at how to address rent stability in the community.
- The Commission asked to hear from the Public Safety Commission regarding issues that were impacting the renters in the community.
- The Commission expressed interest in having a social media presence to explain what DEI was and was not.

Motion by Commissioner Forbes, seconded by Commissioner Weber to approve the 2025-2026 Work Plan as discussed.

Approved 7-0

#### **VI. City Staff Update – Hue Schlieu, DEI Coordinator**

Schlieu requested members of the Commission nominate individuals for Chair and Vice Chair. She reported that New Brighton is recognizing Vietnam War Remembrance Day on Wednesday, April 30.

#### **VII. Chair Update – Kami Miller**

There was no update at this time.

#### **VIII. City Council Update – Emily Dunsworth**

Councilmember Dunsworth provided the Commission an update from the City Council. She stated she was happy to be serving as the liaison for the Equity Commission and noted she would be happy to take questions from this group. It was noted that Council Liaisons will not be present at all meetings, they will prioritize attendance at meetings where there is likely a formal recommendation to Council or if there is a topic Council had requested feedback on similar to Cannabis Public Use conversation in the past.

#### **IX. Adjournment – Next Meeting: May 15, 2025**

The meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hue Schlieu  
DEI Coordinator



<b>Agenda Section:</b>	<b>Business Items</b>
<b>Report Date:</b>	<b>05/08/2025</b>
<b>Meeting Date:</b>	<b>May 15, 2025</b>

**REQUEST FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**ITEM DESCRIPTION: Structuring Connections**

<b>Action Requested:</b>	
Public Hearing	Motion
<u>Discussion</u> <b>X</b>	Informational
<b>Form of Action:</b>	
Resolution	Ordinance
Contract/Agreement	<u>N/A or Other</u> <b>X</b>
<b>Votes Needed:</b>	
3 Votes	4 Votes
5 Votes	<u>N/A</u> <b>X</b>

<b>Summary Statement:</b>	Equity Commissioners identified a number of events where they would like to meet and converse with community members such as Farmers Market, National Night Out, and Community Lunches. Commissioners will discuss topics they would like to hear more about from community members.
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<b>Recommendations:</b>	Provide input on what topics Commissioners want to learn more about when conversing with community members.
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<b>Applicable</b>	N/A
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<b>Deadlines:</b>	
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<b>Community Impact:</b>	Having a unified approach to community engagement will allow the Equity Commission to more effectively and efficiently converse with community members, identify community needs and aspirations, and address various topics of interest.
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<b>Legislative History:</b>	
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<b>Strategic Priority:</b>	Financial Sustainability	Staff Capabilities
	Economic Development	<b><u>Community Engagement &amp; Belonging</u> X</b>
	City Assets	Operational Effectiveness
		N/A

<b>Fiscal Impact:</b>	<b>Financial Impact: Is there a financial consideration?</b>		<b>No</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Yes</b> \$
	<b>Financing Sources:</b>	Budgeted	Budget Modification
	New Revenue	Use of Reserves	Other