



**New Brighton Equity Commission  
Agenda  
Upper Level | Conference Room  
New Brighton City Hall 803 Old Hwy 8 NW, New Brighton , MN  
6:30 PM July 17, 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 Erstad-Hicks	

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**III. Approval of Past Minutes**

- a. May 15, 2025

**IV. Business Items**

- a. Equity Updates and Discussion

**V. City Staff Update**

**VI. Chair Update**

**VII. City Council Update**

**VIII. Adjournment**

- a. Next Meeting: Aug 21, 2025



**MINUTES**  
**New Brighton Equity Commission**  
**Regular Meeting – May 15, 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, Liz Erstad-Hicks, Sophie Jung, Kami Miller, Michael Postle, Melissa Spiess, Kisten Thompson and Ellen Weber.

Members Absent: Commissioners Carlos Herrera.

Also Present: DEI Coordinator Hue Schlieu

**III. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Weber to approve the agenda as presented.

Approved 8-0

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Forbes, seconded by Commissioner Weber to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2025 meeting.

Approved 8-0

**V. Business Items**

**A. Structuring Connections**

Schlieu stated the 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. Staff asked that the Commissioners provide input on what topics they want to learn more about when conversing with community members.

Discussion included:

- The Commission was interested in learning if the community was aware of the cultural events the City hosted and the programs offered by the City.
- The Commission was interested in learning what programs were underutilized by the public.
- The City was interested in having surveys filled out by all demographics in the community.
- It was noted the City's license bureau was heavily utilized by the community.
- The Commission was interested in using the TV within the license bureau for communication purposes.
- The Commission supported addressing the barriers residents in the community were facing.
- The Commission supported reaching out to the Hmong and Somali populations in the community.
- The Commission recommended the City reach out to the long-term care facilities in the community for feedback.
- Schlieu indicated she was very interested in seeing the connections that were made through the youth community connectors.
- The Commission was interested in learning what types of social service asks were being made to the County and was there a strong need for rental assistance.
- The Commission supported finding ways to uplift community members to ensure assistance did not feel like a hand out.
- The Commission commented on the importance of building trust with residents, especially those residents who were underserved.
- The Commission suggested the City connect with the Ramsey County Children's Mental Health Collaborative.
- The Commission suggested look into providing mobile social services at the farmers market.
- Staff commented on the great work the Public Safety Department was doing in the community to build trust.
- The need for low cost or free community gathering space was discussed, along with the potential of incentivizing local businesses to offer their space for community gatherings.
- Staff summarized the comments received and thanked the Commission for all of their feedback.

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

Schlieu reported the next Commission Forum would be held on Tuesday, September 30 in Minnetonka. She explained the Equity Commission would meet next on Thursday, July 17. She indicated she would be bringing the childcare topic back to the Commission at a future meeting. She reported staff was working to create a communications committee and noted she would be holding phone interviews with the 33 youth community connectors next week. It was noted the youth community connectors would be trained in August and would begin their service in the community in September.

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

Chair Miller stated she presented the Equity Commission's work plan to the City Council at their worksession meeting on May 6.

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

There was no update from the City Council.

**IX. Adjournment – Next Meeting: July 17, 2025**

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hue Schlieu  
DEI Coordinator