

# City Manager's Report

Dec 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Council and Colleagues, greetings. These reports will be included in the City Council packet for Council Work Sessions. The reports are intended to be informational, covering miscellaneous events and topics involving the city organization.

## Fire

In the last CM Report, we made mention of the Greater Flagstaff Region Graduation Ceremony that occurred on December 1<sup>st</sup>. The event was well attended, as always, and a total of nine graduates were honored, receiving their badges, helmets, and assigned stations. Thanks to our Mayor and elected officials who attended. Special recognition is given here to the two graduates who will join the Flagstaff Fire Department, Firefighter Andrew Berg and Firefighter Hannah Duval.

A few pictures of the event for your enjoyment:



**Navajo Visit**

A second visit with our Tribal neighbors occurred on Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, when a group of city representatives traveled to Window Rock in Navajo Nation. It was an excellent visit, involving a meeting with the Human Rights Commission followed by a sit-down with the Navajo Nation Vice President, and some staff members and attorneys.

The Human Rights Commission members, shown below, engaged our group with some discussion items that will indeed require some follow-up, with specific focus on arrest data within the city and various programs and measures that have been instituted within the city in recent years (CJCC composition, cultural awareness and sensitivity, and the city’s CARE unit).



**Dr. Jennifer Denetdale,**  
**Commissioner**  
*representing the*  
*Education sector*



**Steven A. Darden, Commissioner**  
*representing the*  
*Business sector*



**Cora Maxx-Phillips, Commissioner**  
*representing the*  
*Social Service sector*



**Steven C Begay, Commissioner**  
*represented the*  
*At-Large sector*

Our afternoon meeting with Vice President Richelle Montoya was also quite engaging, and a number of topics were broached, focusing on an update by Rose Toehe, Flagstaff Coordinator of Indigenous Initiatives.

Richelle Montoya, below, was selected by Dr. Buu Nygren, President of Navajo Nation, as his vice-presidential running mate following the 2022 Navajo Nation Primary Election. Vice President Montoya serves as the 11th Vice President of Navajo Nation and the first ever female elected to the office! There were a number of staff members and attorneys also present for the discussion.



## **United Way**

The United Way of Northern Arizona held a retreat on Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>, at Lowell Observatory. It was a good retreat covering an array of topics, with focus upon the Step Up for Youth objectives, fundraising, and a deep dive into statistical data involving the many United Way Western Region.



## **Downtown Business Alliance**

The Flagstaff Downtown Business Alliance Board met on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, to discuss Holiday festivities, downtown decorations and lighting, and a recruitment process to replace Terry Madeksza, who is ... irreplaceable. Her last day will be on January 17<sup>th</sup>, with the Downtown Vision Plan being presented to Council on day before, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

During the meeting, our Planning Director, Michelle McNulty, gave a great presentation on the Land Availability and Suitability Study / Code Analysis. The board was very interested in the project. As always, Michelle McNulty did a masterful job in the presentation.

## **Budget Retreat**

A reminder that we will be having our December Budget Retreat on December 14<sup>th</sup>, details will be forthcoming. It will be facilitated.

Thanks all for now. Onward and upward ...