

Minutes

COMMISSION ON DIVERSITY AWARENESS
WEDNESDAY
JULY 31, 2026

COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM
[VIRTUAL TEAMS MEETING](#)
211 WEST ASPEN AVENUE
10:00 A.M.

To participate in the meeting virtually use the following link:

[Join the Meeting Online](#)

The public can join the meeting to provide public comment. Please notify Georganna Staskey at georganna.staskey@flagstaffaz.gov if you need any assistance joining the meeting.

1. Call to Order

Chair Hernandez called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

2. Roll Call

NOTE: One or more Commission Members may be in attendance telephonically or by other technological means.

MANNY HERNANDEZ, CHAIR, Present	SILINA MARTINEZ, Present
SANDRA DARLING, VICE CHAIR, Not Present	JUSTIN MALLETT, Present
CARMENLITA CHIEF, Not Present	ANGELICA SANCHEZ, Present

3. Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgment

Chair Hernandez read Mission Statement and Commissioner Mallett read Land Acknowledgement

MISSION STATEMENT

A commission to foster support, respect, awareness and appreciation of diversity among all citizens of Flagstaff.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Commission on Diversity Awareness humbly acknowledges the ancestral homelands of this area's Indigenous nations and original stewards. These lands, still inhabited by Native descendants, border mountains sacred to Indigenous peoples. We honor them, their legacies, their traditions, and their continued contributions. We celebrate their past, present, and future generations who will forever know this place as home.

4. Upcoming Opportunities and Announcements

None.

5. Open Call to the Public

The Commission cannot act upon items presented during the Public Participation portion of the Agenda. Individual Commission members may ask questions of the public but are prohibited by the

Open Meeting Law from discussion or considering the item among themselves until the item is officially placed on the Agenda. Each public comment or presentation will be limited to four (4) minutes.

None.

6. Approval of Minutes

- A. Minutes of the May 27, 2026 meeting.

Moved by Commissioner Martinez, seconded by Commissioner Sanchez to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2026 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Action Items

- A. Discussion and possible action for setting priorities for the year.

The Commission discussed using City proclamations as a broader opportunity to increase community awareness, education, and engagement around diversity and inclusion. Members proposed pairing proclamations with highlights of local community members, business owners, cultural events, and related programs or activities, with the goal of creating content that could potentially be shared through City social media and other outreach channels. The Commission discussed assigning Commissioners to take the lead on individual proclamation months, including conducting interviews and gathering information about relevant community events, while allowing the full Commission to provide input during the planning process. Members also emphasized the importance of expanding the proclamation calendar beyond identity-based topics to reflect the broader range of diversity and inclusion in the community, while coordinating with other commissions where appropriate and avoiding duplication of efforts. Staff noted that the City generally limits Council meetings to three proclamations and that any proposed outreach would need to follow City communications policies. The Commission agreed to develop a working proclamation calendar, identify additional topics and gaps, and determine Commissioner assignments at a future meeting. The group also discussed using tabling opportunities and partnerships with other boards and commissions to increase CODA's visibility and gather community input.

8. Reports

- A. Updates from Working Groups

Commissioner Sanchez reported that the Library Working Group continues progress on the LGBTQ+ Oral History Project and Little Library Project. She noted that her term ends September 1 and offered to remain involved as a community member while the Commission considers a transition for her role. Ms. Staskey let Commissioner Sanchez know she was eligible for another term if she was interested and Commissioner Sanchez stated she was.

Commissioner Sanchez reported that the Rainbow Crosswalk group is on pause for the summer.

- B. Updates from Council Liaison

Councilmember House expressed her appreciation for the Commissioners and thoughtful conversation throughout the meeting. She had no further updates.

- C. Updates from Staff Liaison

Ms. Staskey reported one current vacancy, noting additional terms are set to expire in September. Recruitment outreach is underway, and commissioners were encouraged to help promote the opportunity. Ms. Staskey also recommended skipping the August meeting and reconvening in September to continue working on goals. She noted a staff transition for the September meeting.

9. **Agenda for Future Meeting(s)**

Chair Hernandez requested Chair and Vice Chair considerations come forward at the September meeting. He also shared a personal update and requested a discussion on moving the meetings to another day of the week.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21 a.m.