



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
AUGUST 12, 2025, 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.
HELD VIA [ZOOM WEBINAR](#) AND AT
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



FDC MISSION STATEMENT: 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.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: We respectfully acknowledge the Dena people upon whose traditional lands we reside. We honor the Dena who have been the stewards of Interior lands and waters for centuries, the Elders who lived here before, the Dena people of today, and future generations to come. We also recognize that Alaskan Native people would traditionally gather here and harvest Native foods.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Reading of Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgement)
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
5. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES
 - a) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2025
6. CITIZENS' COMMENTS (Limited to 3 Minutes)
7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR
8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - a) Chair Term Ended; Election of New Vice Chair
 - b) Human Library Update – Event Coordinators: Marney, Webb
Noel Wien Library, September 20, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 - c) Diversity Activity Book
 - d) Calendar of Events (informational only)
9. NEW BUSINESS
10. FDC MEMBERS' COMMENTS
11. MEETING DATES
 - a) Next Regular Meeting Date, September 9, 2025
12. ADJOURNMENT



FAIRBANKS DIVERSITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 8, 2025, 5:30 – 7:00 P.M.
HELD VIA [ZOOM WEBINAR](#) AND AT
FAIRBANKS CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
800 CUSHMAN STREET, FAIRBANKS, ALASKA



The **Fairbanks Diversity Council (FDC)** met on the above date to conduct a Regular Meeting via Zoom Webinar and at the City Council Chambers, 800 Cushman Street, Fairbanks, Alaska. **Vice Chair Karen Blackburn** (Seat I) was physically present, and the following members were in attendance:

Members Present (In Person):

Erica Dillard, Seat A
June Rogers, Seat C
Deirdre Hamilton, Seat K
Jake Merritt, HR Director

Members Present (Zoom):

Herb Butler, Seat J

Also Present:

D. Danyielle Snider, City Clerk

Members Absent:

Vacant, Seat B
Juanita Webb, Seat D (excused)
Vacant, Seat E
Dorothy Shockley, Seat F
Vacant, Seat G
Vacant, Seat H
Lonny Marney, City Council Member
David Pruhs, Mayor

CALL TO ORDER (Reading of Mission Statement and Land Acknowledgement)

Vice Chair Blackburn called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. At the request of Vice Chair Blackburn, **E. Dillard** read the mission statement and **J. Rogers** read the Land Acknowledgement.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice Chair Blackburn led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

J. Rogers, seconded by **E. Dillard**, moved to APPROVE the agenda.

Vice Chair Blackburn called for objection on the motion to APPROVE the agenda, and seeing none, the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2025

E. Dillard, seconded by **J. Rogers**, moved to APPROVE the minutes.

Vice Chair Blackburn called for objection on the motion to APPROVE the minutes, and seeing none, the minutes were approved.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS – None

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- a) Presentation by Chair Webb and Geri Simon

The presentation did not occur since Chair Webb and Geri Simon were not present.

Vice Chair Blackburn asked if anyone had connections in regard to the Intertribal Powwow. Clerk Snider was asked to check with Chair Webb to see if she and former FDC member M. Oss would represent at the event.

Vice Chair Blackburn asked new members E. Dillard and D. Hamilton to introduce themselves. D. Hamilton and E. Dillard each introduced themselves and provided information about their respective backgrounds and experiences. FDC members **J. Rogers, H. Butler, J. Merrit, and K. Blackburn** each gave an introduction of themselves and welcomed the new members.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Human Library Update – Event Coordinators: Marney, Webb
Noel Wien Library, September 20, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

This item was not addressed.

- b) Diversity Activity Book

There was no update on this item.

- c) Report on May 31 Race Against Racism

Vice Chair Blackburn stated that participation was about half of what it was the prior year and expressed hope that participation would increase in 2026. She suggested that the event should be advertised more, possibly on social media. She stated that those who were present were excited and very involved, and it was a good event.

- d) Report on June 14 Juneteenth Celebration

Vice Chair Blackburn stated that she was not present at the Juneteenth event. **J. Rogers** stated that the Juneteenth Celebration seemed to be better attended than it was in previous years. She shared that things were very organized, and the music and activities were well-coordinated. She indicated that people enjoyed themselves. **Vice Chair Blackburn** mentioned that there was an incident with a gentleman at the event who was upset that he was not able to serve food from his food truck due to a permitting issue. She indicated that he complained to the NAACP president

who handled the complaint professionally. **J. Rogers** commented that people may not know the requirements involved with operating food trucks, and information should be sent to them.

- e) Calendar of Events (informational only)

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Upcoming Chair Term Ending; Election of New Vice Chair

The consensus of the FDC was to postpone this item to the next regular meeting.

FDC MEMBERS' COMMENTS

H. Butler provided an update on his medical condition and stated that he will be seeing a specialist in Anchorage. He stated that he stays home most of the time, and that is why he is not present. He questioned what the presentation by Chair Webb and Geri Simon was on the agenda. Clerk Snider explained that the presentation was an effort in collaboration following the FDC's discussion at the FDC's May meeting. **H. Butler** stated that he called Chair Webb after that meeting, but he did not get much information. **J. Rogers** shared that she has spoken with G. Simon, who she believes is very eager to be a part of the conversation. She stated she believes J. Webb and G. Simon are interested in working together.

E. Dillard stated she had no comments.

D. Hamilton stated that the meeting had been enlightening, and she enjoyed herself.

J. Rogers shared that she enjoyed meeting both of the new members and welcomed them again.

J. Merritt stated that he had no comments.

Vice Chair Blackburn stated that she had no comments.

MEETING DATES

- a) Next Regular Meeting Date, August 12, 2025

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Blackburn declared the meeting adjourned at 6:14 p.m.

Juanita Webb, Chair

D. Danyielle Snider, MMC, City Clerk

Transcribed by: DS

Sec. 2-232. FDC—Composition; term of office.

- (a) The FDC shall include 11 public voting members broadly selected to represent the diverse people of Fairbanks. Ten community members shall be appointed by the city mayor subject to the approval of the city council. One community member 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.
- (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.

(Ord. No. 5939, § 1, 3-15-2014; Ord. No. 6045, § 1, 4-29-2017; Ord. No. 6114, § 1, 11-2-2019)

JANUARY

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JUNE

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AUGUST

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OCTOBER

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DECEMBER

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JANUARY

Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday (Jan 20)

FEBRUARY

Black History Month

Presidents Day (Feb 17)

Festival of Native Arts (Feb 27th - Mar 1)

MARCH

Disability Awareness Month

Women's History Month

TCC Annual Convention (Mar 10 - 13)

APRIL

Autism Awareness Month

MAY

Mental Health Awareness Month

Senior Recognition Day Luncheon (May 8)

Mother's Day (May 11)

Memorial Day (May 26)

Race Against Racism (May 31, 11 a.m.)

JUNE

Pride Month

Juneteenth Celebration (Jun 14)

Father's Day (Jun 15)

Juneteenth (Jun 19)

JULY

Independence Day (Jul 4)

Golden Days (Jul 12 - 19)

World Eskimo-Indian Olympics (Jul 16 - 19)

Midnight Sun Intertribal Powwow (Jul 18 - 20)

Tanana Valley State Fair (Jul 25 - Aug 3)

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

Labor Day (Sept 1)

Human Library (Sept 20, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

OCTOBER

Indigenous People's Day (Oct 13)

Alaska Day (Oct 17)

International Friendship Day (Oct 18)

TCC Conference (?)

NOVEMBER

Veterans Day (Nov 11)

DECEMBER