



AGENDA Equity Commission

New Brighton City Hall; 803 Old Hwy 8 NW
Upper Level Conference Room
August 17, 2023 | 6:30 p.m.

Equity Commissioners will attend the meeting in person. Meeting options for members of the public include:

- **Attend the meeting in person:** Attendees who are ill are asked to wear masks and comply with social distancing parameters.
- **Watch the meeting electronically:** Tune into CTV Chanel 8023 (CenturyLink) or Channel 16 (Comcast). To observe the meeting as a livestream or a webcast, visit www.newbrightonmn.gov, hover over "How Do I...," click on "Public Meetings" under View, choose appropriate Commission and date.
- **Join the meeting electronically:** Join using Zoom app: Meeting ID: 898 6240 2361, Passcode 867530 or visit <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89862402361?pwd=MWtPeIRNTGt2RmR2TktwSkM0R1VHdz09>

I. Call to Order

II. Roll Call

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chair Lindsay Spooner | <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Carlos Herrera |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-Chair Kami Miller | <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Ellen Weber |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Jonas Lim | <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Cathy Forbes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Kristin Lau | <input type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Jason Steffenhagen |

III. Approval of Agenda

IV. Approval of 7.20.2023 Minutes

V. Business Items

- a. Land Acknowledgment and Beyond

VI. Chair Update – Lindsay Spooner

- a. What have we noticed around the City?

VII. City Staff Update – Hue Schlieu, DEI Coordinator

VIII. City Council Update – Kari Niedfeldt-Thomas, Mayor

IX. Adjournment – Next meeting: September 21, 2023



MINUTES
New Brighton Equity Commission
Regular Meeting – July 20, 2023
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 Carlos Herrera, Kristin Lau, Kami Miller, Jason Steffenhagen, and Ellen Weber.

Members Absent: Commissioners Cathy Forbes, Lindsay Spooner, Sanja Obradovic, and Jonas Lim.

Also Present: DEI Coordinator Hue Schlieu, Assistant Director of Community Assets and Development Ben Gozola, Consultant Jenni Faulkner, and Mayor Kari Niedfeldt-Thomas

III. Approval of Agenda

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

Approved 5-0

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Lau, seconded by Commissioner Weber to approve the minutes from the June 15, 2023 meeting.

Approved 5-0

V. Business Items

A. Parking Study

Jenni Faulkner, Bolton & Menk, presented the Commission with concepts from the parking study and noted the City was looking to get feedback for the right sizing parking project. She reviewed stacking requirements for drive-thrus, commented on the goals of the parking study and focused on the discussion questions.

Gozola commented further on the Critical Corridors Grant that the City received from Ramsey County that was assisting with the parking study.

Discussion included:

- The Commission hoped that green spaces and the accessibility to green spaces would be increased over time as the City provided right-sized parking and was not over parking properties.
- The Commission did not want local businesses to be adversely impacted by being under parked.
- The Commission recommended parking spaces not be too narrow given the fact the size of vehicles was tending to increase and the City should ensure businesses were providing proper accessibility for residents/patrons.
- Greenspace requirements for parking lots were further discussed.
- The parking concerns surrounding the local schools was discussed.
- The Commission believed the multi-family apartment complexes in the community do not have enough onsite parking. One solution for this problem would be to allow overnight on street parking near the apartment complexes.
- The current language within City Code regarding on street parking was reviewed.
- The Commission discussed how signage may assist with addressing on street parking issues surrounding multi-family housing developments.
- The Commission commented on the expense and benefits of having underground parking within multi-family developments.
- The parking concerns within the City's industrial zoning districts were discussed. The Commission believed the City had adequate parking for industrial properties in the community.
- The need for more transit in the community was discussed.
- The Commission discussed how the City would be impacted if there were no minimum or maximum parking standards in place. Gozola recommended parking minimums remain in place for multi-family developments. The Commission agreed.
- The Commission supported staff exploring more shared parking options for commercial and industrial businesses.
- Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas recommended the City consider language regarding the maintenance of private parking lots.
- Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas suggested the City also consider ADA parking language.
- Gozola commented on the recently approved a large vehicle parking Ordinance that was recently approved by the City Council.
- The importance of planning for EV charging stations was discussed.
- The price for enclosed versus surface parking was discussed. Staff noted they supported the investment in enclosed parking now as this would benefit the community long-term.

VI. Vice Chair Update – Kami Miller

A. What have we noticed around the City?

Miller commented on the Just Deeds event that was held at the end of June. She stated she was pleased by the turnout and community engagement at this event.

Schlieu explained she saw on the inclusive New Brighton Facebook page there would be a meeting for queer/trans youth to discuss safe spaces on Saturday, July 29.

VII. City Staff Update – Hue Schlieu, DEI Coordinator

Schlieu reported a park tour would be conducted on Tuesday, August 29. She stated she was researching budget friendly signage options for Just Deeds. She noted the Equity Commission work plan has been posted on the City's website. She indicated the Equity Strategic Action team was putting together recommended language for land acknowledgements and this would be reviewed by the Commission at a future meeting.

VIII. City Council Update – Kari Niedfeldt-Thomas

Mayor Niedfeldt-Thomas provided the Commission an update from the City Council. She explained the final undeveloped piece of property (Block B) within the New Brighton Exchange was sold to United Properties and would be developed. She commented on the work that was occurring within Hansen Park and noted a public input meeting was being held regarding the splash park at Lions Park. She discussed the ribbon cutting ceremony that was held at TUV SUD. She noted she attended the League of Minnesota Cities Conference in Duluth at the end of June. She explained the City was seeking a student commissioner for the Equity Commission. She reported the Council was working on the 2024 budget, along with the legislative priorities for next year. She invited the Commission to attend the Rise Open House on Monday, July 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Community Center. She indicated the City Council would meet next on Tuesday, July 25 at 6:30 p.m. She encouraged the public to attend Stockyard Days which will be held Friday, August 11 through Sunday, August 13.

IX. Adjournment – Next Meeting: August 17, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hue Schlieu
DEI Coordinator

REQUEST FOR COMMISSION CONSIDERATION

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Land Acknowledgment and Beyond
DEPARTMENT HEAD'S APPROVAL:
CITY MANAGER'S APPROVAL:
No comments to supplement this report ____ Comments attached ____

Background:

A Land Acknowledgment is a message, commonly read at the beginning of an event, that acknowledges the people whose land we are on. It is a way to honor the Indigenous inhabitants of the land that the City of New Brighton occupies.

The Equity Strategic Action Team (ESAT) drafted a Land Acknowledgment for the City. This statement recognizes the Dakota people, acknowledges their history and losses, and outlines the City's commitment to do more.

Task Overview:

The Equity Commission is tasked with:

- Learning about Land Acknowledgments.
- Understanding the importance of Land Acknowledgments in the context of the history of the United States, Minnesota, and New Brighton.
- Providing feedback on New Brighton's proposed Land Acknowledgment and next steps.

Financial Impact:

None.

Resources:

- Presentation

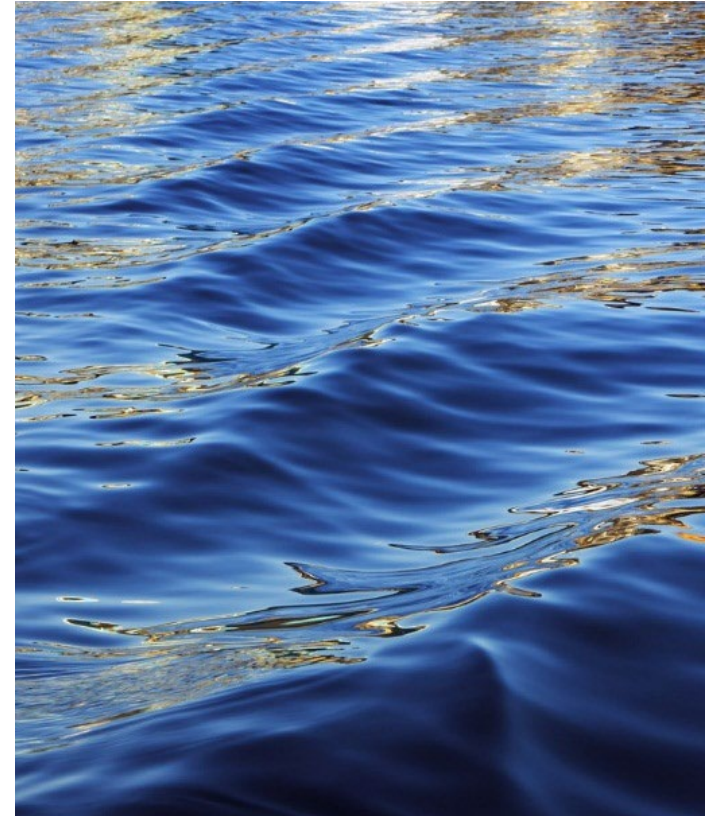


Hue Schlieu
DEI Coordinator



Land Acknowledgment and Beyond

Hue Schlieu, DEI Coordinator
17 August 2023



Agenda

- Brief Overview on the Impacts of Colonization
- History of Indigenous People in New Brighton
- Land Acknowledgment
- Going Beyond Land Acknowledgments

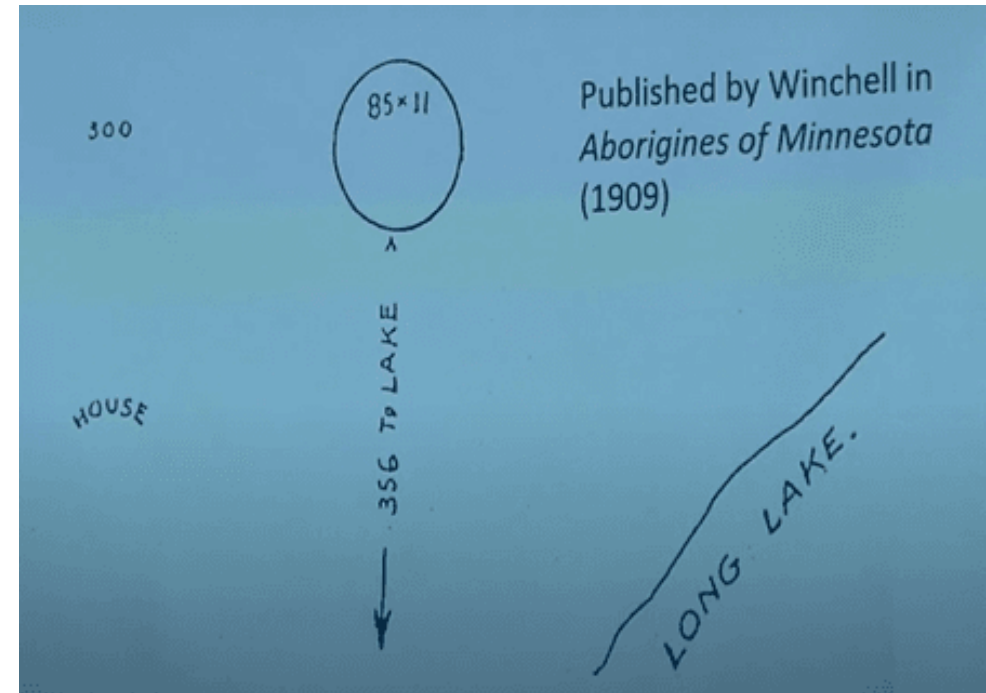
Impacts of Colonization



- Misinformation
- Erasure
- Propaganda
- Violence

New Brighton's Indigenous History


- 1740s
- Confluence of Rice Creek and Long Lake
- Otonwewakpadan = “Village on a Stream”
- Harvested wild rice
- Robust community “Grand Village”
- Burial mound – “human bone fragments, pottery, pipes, arrowheads, and other items”
- Dark Points date back to 5500 BC



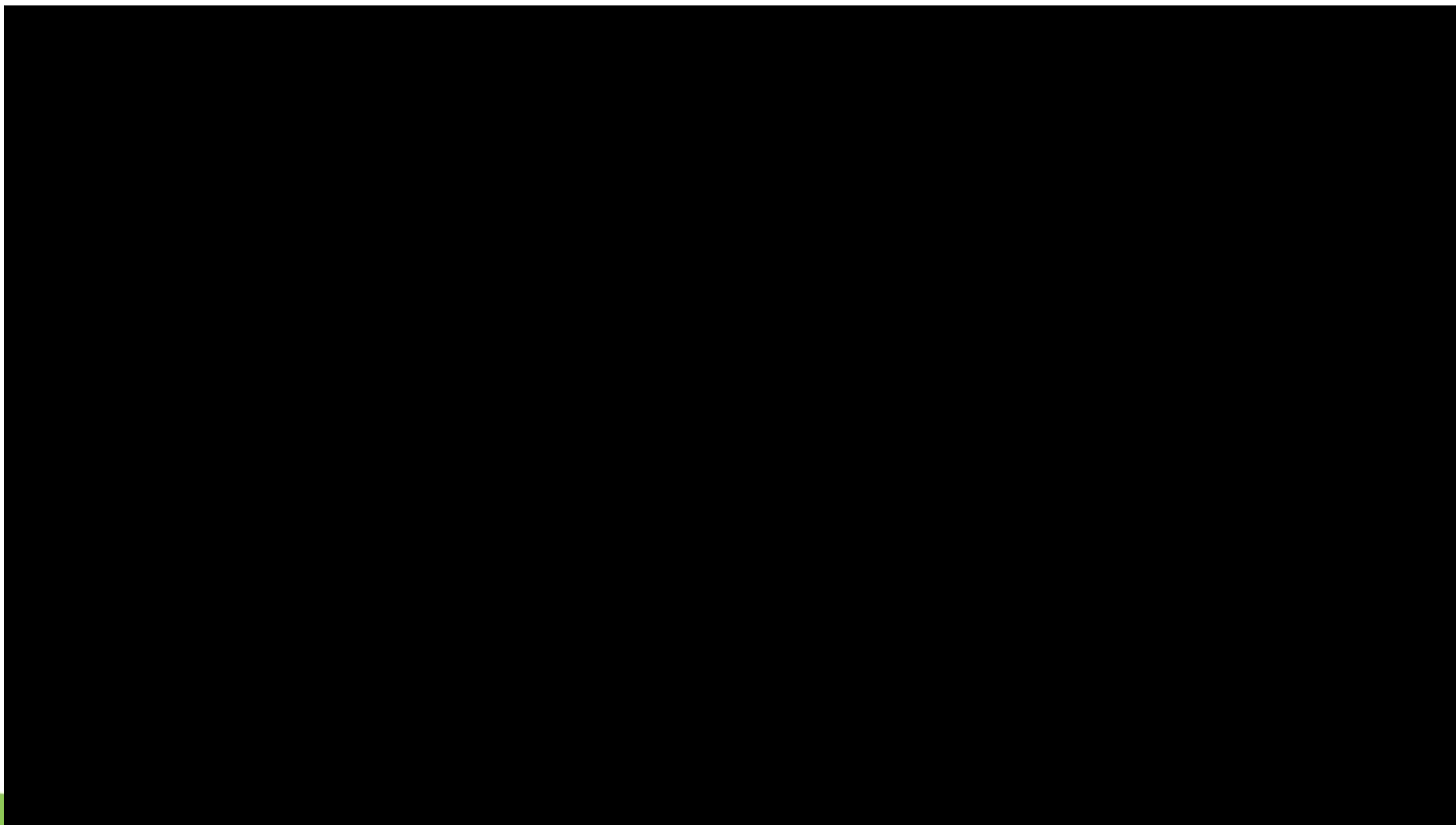
Definition

A land acknowledgment is a message at the beginning of a gathering that acknowledges the people whose ancestral home land we are on.

“It is an effort to ensure the connection between Indigenous people and their land are not erased and forgotten” – Sam Torres



Honor Native Land



“

We call on all individuals and organizations to open public events and gatherings with acknowledgment of the traditional Native inhabitants of the land.

#HonorNativeLand

Proposed Land Acknowledgment

The City of New Brighton recognizes the Dakota people as the original caretakers of the land we occupy. We acknowledge the centuries of violence, oppression, and displacement perpetrated by our state and federal government.

Indigenous people are still here and continue to enrich our community in immeasurable ways. We are committed to:

- Raising awareness of historical legacies that continue to shape the present;
- Amplifying the vibrancy of Indigenous people and culture; and
- Respecting the connection between Indigenous people and the land where we live, work, and play.



Next Steps

- Bring land acknowledgment to City Council
- Updating New Brighton history to include Indigenous history
- Inform staff about land acknowledgment and guide them to understand the context and importance
- Exploring policies to better systemically raise awareness
- Engage community members to explore ways to go beyond land acknowledgements
 - Host events about the history of New Brighton's/Minnesota's Indigenous people/communities
 - Amplify Indigenous Peoples' Day
 - Financially contribute to Indigenous people/nations/organizations