

Community Engagement Meeting Minutes Oct. 15, 2025

Meeting summary

Attendees: Melany Moras, Lucy Williams, Amitava Ray, Bryn Johnson, Shivam Shah, Falguni Dharodiya, Tara Bradshaw, Jenny Haase, Kellie Challburg, Linda Peterson

Quick recap

The meeting began with attendance confirmations and administrative matters, including a discussion about the importance of seeking help and building trust within communities. The committee reviewed meeting minutes and discussed holiday recognitions, including videos for Indigenous Peoples Day and Hispanic American Heritage Month, while also planning for upcoming celebrations like Diwali and World Kindness Day. The group organized plans for Kindness Week and the America 250 celebration in 2026, while also reviewing recent events and discussing improvements for future activities.

Next steps

- [Jenny and Lucy to lead the World Kindness Day/Week planning committee and communicate plans back to the team via email](#)
- [Amitava to help with creating posters and graphics for World Kindness Day/Week](#)
- [Kellie to check the Day Barn availability for a potential World Kindness Week event](#)
- [Linda to send the Meals on Wheels contact information to the committee members](#)
- [Kellie to confirm with Nicole about the World Kindness Day proclamation for the next council meeting](#)
- [Amitava to share a video for Diwali if possible](#)
- [Bryn to look into potential needs from Utah Food Bank for Thanksgiving](#)
- [Kellie to send out an updated roster with everyone's contact information](#)
- [Committee members who approved minutes to follow up with confirmation after reviewing them](#)
- [Tara to organize a committee outing to volunteer with the Second and Second Coalition](#)

Summary

Building Trust Through Vulnerability

Amitava shared an inspirational message about the importance of asking for help to build trust and strengthen relationships, emphasizing that vulnerability in seeking assistance demonstrates trust

and allows others to show up for us. The discussion highlighted the value of community support and the need to overcome the stigma of asking for help, especially in challenging times.

Meeting Minutes and Holiday Updates

The meeting focused on reviewing and approving meeting minutes, with Amitava confirming his approval, seconded by Tara. Kellie noted that the minutes were linked in the email and would be published, with attendees encouraged to review them before the next meeting in November. Linda provided updates on recent holiday recognitions, including a video about the Soon'kahni Preserve for Indigenous Peoples Day and a Hispanic American Heritage Month video. She also inquired about finding participants for upcoming spotlights on Diwali and the Day of the Dead, with committee members asked to provide contacts or suggest alternatives if needed.

Diwali and World Kindness Plans

The committee discussed plans for Diwali celebrations, deciding to share a video about the tradition and local celebrations, with Amitava offering to create or find a video. They also discussed World Kindness Day on November 13th, with plans to read proclamations at the council meeting and potentially organize community activities. The group explored ideas for promoting kindness, including highlighting local heroes and service projects. Additionally, they briefly touched on Meals on Wheels volunteer opportunities and a planned video about the Utah Food Bank ahead of the holidays.

Kindness Week and Community Planning

The committee discussed plans for Kindness Week, scheduled for November 8-15, including organizing community events, creating promotional materials, and encouraging social media participation with the hashtag #DraperKindness. They agreed to form a subcommittee led by Jenny and Lucy to plan the week's activities, with Amitava offering to help with posters and graphics. The group also reviewed the upcoming America 250 celebration in 2026, discussing potential events like a potluck and children's parade, and agreed to form a committee for this initiative. Finally, they briefly discussed the recent International Arts and Crafts Festival, noting areas for improvement, and touched on upcoming events like the Veterans Day ceremony and holiday tree lighting.

Motion to adjourn made by Melany, seconded by Tara.

Minutes created by AI zoom, reviewed by staff.