

Community Engagement Meeting Minutes Nov. 19, 2025

Meeting summary

Attendees: Melany Moras, Lucy Williams, Amitava Ray, Falguni Dharodiya, Tara Bradshaw, Jenny Haase, Kellie Challburg, Linda Peterson, Melarie Wheat

Tara thanked everyone for attending and making a quorum.

Tara approved the Oct. 15, 2025 minutes and Amitava seconded the motion. The committee approved the 2026 meeting calendar skipping May, July, September, November and December. Tara asked if we could still meet in November and just move the meeting up a week as to avoid Thanksgiving. The committee members agreed.

Thanks to Amitava for the Diwali video. Linda expressed her gratitude also.

Kellie announced that the city would be hosting a Chanukah event on December 17. Rabbi Zippel would be attending with a Menorah. There will be treats. Mayor Walker will introduce the Rabbi. It is open to the public.

Discussion on the Black History Month poster contest- should it be continued as the turnout is low. The prizes are like a \$25 gift card and an art set for the three different age categories. There is a participant prize also. Lucy said a bigger prize might be needed to incentivize the older kids. Kellie said maybe the dollar amount could be increased. Melany suggested spotlighting the winners. Linda suggested that we could announce the winners at a council meeting. Jenny said we could let the art teachers and others teachers know about the contest. Falguni said flyers could be up at the schools and maybe the teachers could make it an assignment. Amitava suggested better communication with the schools. Peachjar has been used in the past. Amitava said it has been better if it comes down from the district. Kellie wondered if we could get it to boy scouts and girl scouts. Jenny asked if youth council members could be incentivized to turn in a poster. Tara said the committee members would be happy to help get the word out.

Recap- Kindness week. Jenny said there were approximately 25 signs posted around Draper city reminding people to be kind. Kellie said the signs should probably come down now that it is over to comply with code. Jenny left bookmarks in the lobby and upstairs of city hall. Melany said they had good responses but a table would have been nice at Harmons but had some initial pushback. Jenny said she had great conversations with people at the park. Jenny said the city did a great video with city employees promoting kindness. Linda said there were nice comments on the post. Kellie thanked the committee for all their work on the kindness project. There was a discussion about saving the signs for next year and just changing the date. There are two different dates in the year to promote kindness- one in February and one in November.

Tara announced that Jill Rowe resigned from the committee to spend more time with her family. She will be missed. A new group text thread will be created.

Kellie said the city is forming a volunteer committee for America 250. The committee will meet once a month from January through July. There are lots of ideas of ways to promote America 250. The committee will host a neighborhood potluck on July 5 and have reserved the pavilions for that purpose. Volunteers are needed.

There is a ribbon cutting coming up for Crispy Cones at noon on Friday. It is like ice cream in a churro and it located near the Harmons on Bangerter. Drift Reflexology next door to Crispy Cones is opening soon also. Tara asked if anyone could attend the ribbon cutting to hold up the Welcome to Draper sign. Kellie said she would try and remember to bring the sign.

There was a discussion about the proposed development on 300 East that will be going to Planning Commission the following days.

Tara asked about service opportunities coming up. She asked if there were any Angel Tree opportunities similar to last year. Kellie checked with the Fire Dept and it is a possibility. Tara said there may be a chance to sign up to work with the Ronald McDonald house at the hospital. Lucy said the Ronald McDonald House was great when she had an ill baby and would love to be involved. Tara said the sign up was fairly full but she would look into it.

Tara said volunteers now need to be approved to work as Cold Blue volunteers for the unsheltered. There are churches downtown that open for movie nights when it is really cold. Tara said she has had great experiences there and would forward the information.

Kellie mentioned the December events coming up including the Tree Lighting, the Holiday Market and the Candy Cane Hunt.

The committee discussed dates for the committee Christmas party and Dec. 18 was suggested. Melarie offered to host the party at her house. Kellie said to let the committee know what to bring.

Jenny said Mimi reached out with the Draper Journal and would like to do a story on the committee and Kindness Week.

Falguni made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Jenny.