

MEMORANDUM – DENVER NONPROFIT ENGAGEMENT COMMISSION

TO:	City Council
FROM:	Office of Boards and Commission
DATE:	12/06/2024
PURPOSE:	Appointments for Denver Nonprofit Engagement Commission
NEXT STEPS:	City Council Confirmation

Staff Liaison: Rowena Alegria, HRCP

CURRENT BOARD STATUS

The Nonprofit Engagement Commission serves as a catalyst for leveraging the best of Denver’s public and nonprofit sectors and their commitment to engaging in innovative and collaborative work. The Commission’s core work is focused on providing support for the Office of Nonprofit Engagement and the implementation of its strategies and goals.

Appointment Process: The Mayor appoints, and City Council confirms up to 11-15 Members, each serving a three (3) year term.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS / AGENCY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appointment Candidates:

Term: 01/01/2025 – 12/31/2027 or until a successor is duly appointed.

Rachel Levine Director of People Development, Dumb Friends League



Bio: Rachel Levine’s professional work in the nonprofit industry focuses on organizational development and DEAI strategy/implementation. She works with a wide variety of historically marginalized Denverites, including providing services to unhoused neighbors, at the Dumb Friends League. Rachel currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Denver Language School and has held previous Board of Director positions with the Junior League of Denver.

Kyle Lephart Executive Director, Canine Partners of the Rockies



Bio: Kyle is the Executive Director of Canine Partners of the Rockies based in Aurora. He is a recent Santa Fe transplant and is very involved in numerous civic organizations including Rotary Club and Rose Foundation’s Generation Now. His passion and commitment to the disabled community and his professionalism combined with affability and humor would be a positive addition to our commission. has worked with both from the funding side and the programmatic side of nonprofits and is excited about helping address certain gaps in strategies and return information to the nonprofits he has access to. He is looking for collaboration opportunities that can help nonprofits become more sustainable. He is also eager to collaborate more with the city government when appropriate. A common goal he shares with the commission.

Davis Hurth - Financial Representative at Northwestern Mutual



Bio: Davis Hurth passion for serving the nonprofit community is acknowledged by his willingness to participate and help in the past. Skilled in Nonprofit management, business analytics, financial advising he is eager to share his time and talents to further the mission of the commission.

Sydney Byer – Manager of Public Policy and Strategic Partnerships, Next50



Bio: Sydney Byer joined Next50 in January 2021 and now serves as the Manager of Public Policy and Strategic Partnerships. In this role, she leads Next50’s public policy and strategic partnership agenda. She works to deepen relationships with leaders in aging including federal, state, and local officials, policymakers, nonprofit advocates, and strategic partnerships that support the implementation of the foundations’ priorities. She has had various experiences in the non-profit and public sectors in Denver, working in direct service, grant management, fundraising, and volunteer management. She is passionate about the work she supports at Next50 in making a long-term positive impact that will enhance the aging experience both in Colorado and beyond. Sydney has a B.A. in International Affairs and Spanish from CU–Boulder and a Master’s in Public Administration from CU-Denver. In her free time, she enjoys volunteering, traveling, and supporting her favorite Colorado sports teams!

Susan Hill Impact Manager, Next50



Bio: Susan joined Next50 in late 2017 as an Impact Manager. In that role, she works with the team to review grant proposals, assists with outreach to communities across Colorado, and acts as staff liaison for selected grants. Susan brings over 30 years of experience in philanthropy and public health. Since 2014, she has been the principal of Sullivan Hill Consulting, working with state and local foundations and nonprofits. For thirteen years, Susan was the vice president of the Caring for Colorado Foundation, a grantmaker dedicated to improving health and health care for the people of Colorado. Previously, Susan was one of the founders and the first executive director of Colorado Action for Healthy People, a nonprofit designed to identify and address community health issues. Susan holds a Master’s in Public Health from the University of Colorado. She is an active community volunteer and currently serves as the past chair of the Board of Directors for the Center for Work, Education and Employment (CWEE), which works to help low-income single parents move out of poverty. Susan loves to travel, hike, and read.

Eunice Kwon DEI Clinical Supervisor, Aurora Mental Health & Recovery



Bio: Eunice Kwon is a passionate trauma therapist, DEI practitioner, and organizational strategist with over 13 years of experience in mental health, change management, and organizational development. She has contributed to numerous crisis response efforts, including supporting communities impacted by mass shootings and natural disasters. Eunice holds a Master’s in Social Work from the University of Denver and certifications in crisis counseling, gender-affirming care, and anti-oppressive practices. With a robust background in trauma therapy, DEI, and organizational strategy, Eunice is dedicated to empowering individuals and organizations through healing, equitable practices, and leadership development. Current Moonshot Fellow.

Current Board Members:

Danielle “Dee Dee” DeVuyst

Liane Morrison

Dede de Percin

Melanie Tsuchida

Cori Streetman

LaRita Cavness

End date:

12-31-26

12-31-26

12-31-26

03-31-27

03-31-27

03-31-27