

**Official Report of the Community Relations Commission
February 11, 2020 6:30 pm.**

Members present: Burkhart, Laliwala, Lo, Downing, Pellicano

Members absent: John, Engel, Flores, Voehringer, Murphy, Cha, Schultz,
Pimentel

Board of Trustees Members: Connie Travis

Members of Village Staff present: Teresa Liston

Guests: Chad Comello, Morton Grove Public Library

One Book One Village

Mr. Comello reviewed the program for One Book, One Village. The book that was chosen is *The Great Believers*, written by Rebecca Makkai. There is a scheduled meet and greet with the author on Sunday October 11, 2020 at the Library. There will be a presentation, question and answers, and book signing session. The Library will have the book available in hard/paperback copies and digital format. There will be book discussions monthly. This book includes topics that will lead to open discussions that include the AIDS epidemic, cults and the Chicago art scene. The Library will include this in the June and July newsletter to begin reading prior to the author's visit. Ms. Liston stated the CRC will help to promote this program in anyway.

Coming Together

Commissioner Burkhart reviewed the program "Coming Together" and highlighted events from the book for the upcoming events.

Community Block Party

Mr. Czerwinski reviewed the individual block parties which included a survey from the Northwest Municipal Conference with results including most communities indicated they do not promote with any prizes as these are self-generated. After reviewing the other applications from surrounding communities, they included a planning sheet, visits from the Fire and Police Departments and the Library Book Bicycle. There could be a Block Party of the year application with a summary of previous parties that indicate what they did making their party unique and give new ideas to those wishing to plan a block party for their neighborhood. Ideas for the Village participation include balloons, disposable cups and promote recycling. The average number of block parties in prior years in the Village is 10.

Commissioner Laliwala researched other block parties and found a timeline to use to guide those planning a block party. Ms. Liston stated this information will be reviewed along with Mr. Czerwinski's ideas and discussed at the March meeting.

Neighborhood Outreach

Ms. Travis asked for volunteers for the Thursday, February 20, 2020 meeting at 6:00 pm. Located at Edison School. Commissioners Lo and Pellicano volunteered.

Garage Sale

Ms. Liston suggested the weekend sale dates June 12-13-14 and all agreed. Commissioner Burkhart asked if there was a location for those that live in condominiums to set up tables for a sale. Mr. Czerwinski suggested the metra lot could be used and charge a minimal fee of \$10.00. The committee agreed that should be a separate date from the traditional Village garage sale. Ms. Liston would like to continue the discussion at the next meeting in March.

Community Artist Performance

Commissioner Lo stated the performance date is April 18, 2020 with the deadline for entries on March 6, 2020.

Adopt a Planter

The scheduled date for spring Adopt a Planter is June 6, 2020. Mr. Czerwinski added that the winter planters will be reviewed for next season and perhaps have some shorter greenery and adding some colored twigs would add to the display. Ideas were added that the Village place the greenery in the planters and those adopting the planters add additional decorations for display.

Photo Contest

Ms. Liston reported there have been quite a few submissions already received. Volunteers are needed for a committee to review the photos for new banners to hang along Dempster Street.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31pm.

Minutes by Janet Sheehan