

Minutes of the May 10, 2016

Meeting of the Community Relations Commission

Pursuant to proper notice in accordance with the Open Meetings Act, the regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order at 6:30 pm. on May 10, 2016, by Chairperson Arcelia Pimentel.

Members of the Commission present: Burkhart, Mok, Pimentel, Laliwala

Members of the Commission absent: Younana, Engles, Cha, Varughese

Board of Trustees Members: Connie Travis, Village Clerk

Members of Village Staff present: Teresa Hoffman Liston, Corporation Counsel, John Mitchell, Public Works

Guests: Eric Poders,

Chairperson Pimentel announced the first order of business was approval of the meeting minutes of April 12, 2016. Commissioner Cha moved to approve the minutes. Commissioner Burkhart seconded the motion. Minutes unanimously approved by voice vote.

2016 INITIATIVES UPDATES

Adopt A Planter Program

Chairperson Pimentel reviewed the schedule for the upcoming Adopt A Planter Program schedule for Saturday May 14, and Sunday, May 15 between 8:00 am.-1 pm. at the Civic Center. The volunteer sign-up sheet was sent out to all and volunteers are scheduled for both days. Photos are encouraged by the participants picking up the plants and during planting. The kits will be color coordinated with the signs and easy to follow directions. All will be encouraged to plant the same day as pick up.

Ms. Liston explained all the pots will be pre-labeled with a name stake and ready for planting. Additional plants can be added to the kit as desired, making sure all pots located at Civic Center and Metra Station contain full-sun only selections. Continuing, Liston added this is a fun event and encourage all to take selfies. Following the event, a thank you email will be sent to all that participated with a survey and ask for photos of their pots and share tips for planting. The idea has been to continue this during the winter months, but not yet confirmed. Ms. Pimentel added the survey cover suggestions on how to improve the event for the following year.

Commissioner Cha suggested passing out the flyers for the photo contest when they pick up their plants.

Farmers Market Table

Commissioner Cha has a sign-up sheet for the 3 dates which includes 2 shifts: 8-10am and 10:00-12 pm. 2 volunteers per shift and dates are July 16, August 20, September 17.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the Farmers Market Committee could be notified no signs be placed in the pots at the Civic Center. Cha will pass the info along to the Committee.

Cha asked if there was marketing material for the table to pass out. Ms. Pimentel replied this is being worked on and will be ready for the July date, adding there should also be some pictures of the planting event and hopefully the photo contest.

Village Photo Contest

Ms. Pimentel passed around several entries that had been submitted for the contest. The committee members include Travis and Patel. The judging procedures are being reviewed and confirmed.

Ms. Liston added the Village Administrator, Ralph Czerwinski has some shadow boxes for framing photos and the winning pictures will be displayed at the Village Hall.

Neighborhood Outreach

Ms. Travis asked for volunteers for the Neighborhood Outreach on June 15 at 6:00 pm at Edison School on Gross Pt Rd. Engles volunteered for the table.

Community Garage Sale

Ms. Liston explained this would be a garage sale weekend in Morton Grove and all fees would be waived for the participants. There would be mass publicity and a GIS map would be provided with all the locations participating.

Commissioner Cha said that Morton Grove has a Virtual Garage Sale on-line where residents buy and sell their unwanted possessions. Ms. Liston asked if this site would advertise the event for the CRC. Cha would look into the possible advertising of this event on this on-line site. The possible time line would be September and Liston asked if the committee would consider this event.

OTHER BUSINESS

Interfaith Walk

Commissioner Burkhart reported there are 4 houses of Worship that are interested in participating. There is a meeting at St Luke's on Wednesday May 25 @ 6:00 pm. The discussion will be on participating within the Morton Grove area and encouraging other Houses of Worship to join the walk.

Ms. Liston asked if anyone knew about a Peace Vigil that is scheduled. Burkhart added that St Luke's is hosting it on June 1. Liston said if the CRC has any info on this that Commissioner Cha could post it on the Facebook page.

Additional Members

Chairperson Pimentel said new members are welcome. Cha also posts the meetings on Facebook and adds that anyone is welcome to attend.

Commissioner Engles asked if members must be over age 21. Liston responded there is no age requirement. Engles added this could be a good way to get involved in politics for young adults. If there is a program at the high school for government, perhaps this could be posted and encourage students to participate.

Ms. Liston said the committee is still looking for more members and there should be a goal set for new members. The goal is to have 3 more members by September 2016 and all members will be treated to Culver's.

Ms. Pimentel stated the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday June 7, 2016. There is a conflict with the members for that date and should this be rescheduled to the next meeting July 12, 2016. Pimentel asked if the time schedule for the meetings should remain at 6:30 pm. or be changed to a later time. The consensus was to remain at 6:30 pm and contact absent members to see if this is a convenient time.

Audience Comments

none

Pimentel asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cha moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was then unanimously approved pursuant to a voice vote at 7:25 pm.

Minutes by Janet Sheehan