

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
March 18, 2015 – 7:00 PM
VILLAGE HALL – ROOM 101**

PRESENT: Commissioners Tom Zapler, Pat Michalski, Patrice Myers, Maggie Duran, Michelle Wiley, Tennille Allen, David Mann

ABSENT: Katie Seitelman

STAFF: Cedric Melton

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05PM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Commissioner Duran motioned for agenda approval with Commissioner Wiley providing a second.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tabled until next meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM: Resident Beat Officer Mark Scott attended the meeting and gave an overview of the Community Policing Program and its purpose. He discussed the monthly meetings held by officers and invited the CRC to be as involved as appropriate.

NEW BUSINESS: Cedric Melton discussed his recent conversation with District 200 administrators on the high school all Black assembly controversy. Melton has been asked by the high school to assist with future conversations on race. He will involve the CRC as appropriate.

OLD BUSINESS: Melton discussed the decision of the festival committee to open up ten slots to surrounding communities and asked the CRC to assist with identifying a total of ten groups. Outreach will be conducted.

Melton also talked about a delegation from the USSR that will be coming to VOP on April 2, 2015 to learn more about Oak Park and its diversity philosophy and programs. Melton and Chair Zapler will be attending the discussion.

Commissioner Wiley discussed the ongoing social media development of the CRC in concert with David Powers and staff.

AUSTIN PARTNERSHIP: Commissioner Allen briefly discussed her planning for reaching out to community groups in the neighborhoods. She will report back with details as planning continues.

ESSAY CONTEST: Commissioner Wiley discussed the work she and Lynn Allen have been doing regarding the contest and gave the CRC an overview of contest regulations. Lynn Allen was in attendance and provided additional input on the process. Mr. Melton will work with the VMO to see if contest winners can be present at a village board meeting in May.

Adjourn: Commissioner Allen moved that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 PM with Commissioner Duran providing a second. All were in favor.

Cedric Melton
Staff Liaison

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