

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
January 16th– 7:00 PM
VILLAGE HALL – ROOM 101**

PRESENT: Commissioners Grimes, Zapler, Benkert, Kill

ABSENT: Moore, Robertson

STAFF: Cedric Melton

CALL TO ORDER: 7:03PM

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Commissioner Kill motioned for agenda approval with Commissioner Grimes providing a second.

PUBLIC FORUM: Maya Puentas was in attendance to observe the meeting of the Commission as she is interested in the group's work. She gave an overview of her background.

Dinner and Dialogue Report: Commissioner Grimes reported on the activities of the dinner program and highlighted the successful partnership with Unity temple Foundation on the joint dinners that were held there. Chair Zapler also mentioned the joint tentative dinner to observe the 50th anniversary activities which will be planned in the coming months with Dominican University.

Racial Equity Progress: Mr. Melton provided a brief update on continuing staff outreach to entities currently doing racial equity work. He mentioned outreach to National League of Cities for possible training as well as the City of Evanston's Office of Equity and Empowerment which has offered to conduct a training module on cultural competence and racial equity frameworks at no cost to the Village this year. There was a question as to whether the Commission could see the content of the training.

Police Chief: Chair Zapler talked about his participation in the interview process for hiring the new Police Chief. Zapler also suggested the group invite the new Chief to a meeting to discuss his vision for the community.

50th Anniversary Activity: Chair Zapler updated the group on the planning activities of the Fair Housing at 50 group. He noted a dinner activity as one project that the CRC will be involved in as well as a presence at an MLK discussion on January 22nd at Dominican University.

Work Plan 2019: There was a brief discussion on assigning work plan projects which was tabled until further notice.

CRC Vacancies: There was a lengthy discussion over the amount of time it has taken to get candidates appointed to the commission. Commissioner Kill is drafting an email to be sent to the Mayor and possibly trustees regarding the CRC's concern over this situation and how it may be remedied.

ADJOURN: Commissioner Kill, second by Commissioner Benkert.