

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

### VIRTUAL APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2020

7:00PM

1) **CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

a. **ROLL CALL:** Chair G. Brewer, Trustee S. Boutet (7:25pm),  
Commissioners, K. Grimes, B. Hovde, M. Puentes, J.  
Rodriguez, Y. Terretta and C. West

At this time, Cedric Melton read a statement per the Village Board and its requirements regarding special meetings being conducted remotely with live audio available and optional video. A discussion ensued regarding the method in which the meeting was set in place and the agenda format.

2) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Comm. West motioned to approve the agenda and it was seconded by Comm. Terretta.

**ROLL CALL:** Chair G. Brewer – Yes, Commissioners K. Grimes – Yes,  
B. Hovde, M. Puentes – No, C. West, Y. Terretta – Yes, and  
J. Rodriguez – Yes.

All in Favor: 6, Nay – 1.

3) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Comm. West and seconded by Comm. Puentes to approve the meetings of January 15, 2020.

**ROLL CALL:** Chair G. Brewer- Yes, Commissioners; K. Grimes – Yes,  
B.Hovde, M. Puentes – Yes, C. West – Yes, Y. Terretta –  
Yes, and J. Rodriguez – Yes.

4) **PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE**

At this time, Chair Brewer read the Oak Park Citizens' Commission statement.

**5) NEW BUSINESS**

- a. GUEST PRESENTATION – SHEILA RADFORD-HILL, Ph.D., CHIEF DIVERSITY OFFICER/TITLE IX COORDINATOR, DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY (TO BE INVITED)**

**I. TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING AND TRANSFORMATION (TRHT)**

- b. 2020 BUSINESS PLAN – REVIEW AND REVISIONS**

Chair G. Brewer introduced Dr. Sheila Radford-Hill to the Commission. Chair Brewer reported that Dr. Radford-Hill have been working with Comm. Grimes.

Dr. Radford-Hill reported to the Commission that she has partnered with students, faculty, staff and particularly those students under represented at OPRF. Dr. Radford-Hill reported that Dominican University welcomed African-American students in the 1906's. the University has provided leadership in Equity.

Dominican University wants to partner with the Community Relations Commission. We should build a community where all can thrive.

Commissioner Grimes reported that she was the Co-Sponsor of Dinner Dialogue last Spring. She met Dr. Radford-Hill last July. Comm. Grimes reported that there were other community members involved.

Chair Brewer asked Dr. Radford-Hill if she had any information that she could provide to the Commission at this time. She stated that she could put together a thumbnail and a list of the facilitators and websites for now.

A question and answer session ensued.

Chair Brewer informed the Commission that in order to enter a partnership, we have to enter a motion. More conversation continued concerning partnerships and qualitative measurements; forming cohorts, etc.

Dr. Radford-Hill suggested preparing a memorandum for a year. There are clearly outcome measures. The key is to get students' engaged in telling their stories. Dr. Radford-Hill suggested having the students meet with the Commission via Dinner Dialogue.

Chair Brewer suggested a timeline of early September to make a formal recommendation to the Village Board with Dominican University. TRHT – let that be the guiding principle and how we expand out from there; establish a document, understanding where we really need to focus.

Chair Brewer stated that this discussion will be continued and placed back on the agenda for further discussion.

Chair Brewer discussed the 2020 Work Plan and the inability to work on it due to the COVID-19 Stay at Home Order. He proposed that the main item for the next meeting only consist of the workplan. Other main items are:

- 1) Partnering with other organizations
- 2) Governing for Racial Equity
- 3) A Racial Equity Plan for the Village

Comm. Puentes discussed the Freedom to Thrive Organization (Policing in Oak Park); requesting a special meeting. Chair West agreed.

## **6) ADJOURN**

With no further discussion, a motion by Comm. Puentes was made to adjourn and seconded by Comm. Rodriguez.

**ROLL CALL:** Chair Brewer – Yes, Commissioners; Puentes – Yes, West – Yes, Terretta – Yes, Rodriguez – Yes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Special meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7pm.

## **RECORDING SECRETARY**

**Andrea F. Mance**