

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
May 18, 2022 – 7:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING**

PRESENT: Comms. Brewer, Bencola, Puentes, Quinn, Sakiyama, Trustee Enyia

ABSENT: Comm. Hughes, Rodriguez, Terretta

STAFF: Cedric Melton

CALL TO ORDER: 7:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Comm. Quinn motioned for agenda approval Comm. Bencola provided a second. All were in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

There were no minutes to approve from the scheduled 4/20/2022 CRC meeting as there was no quorum. Approval of the last minutes from the 3/16/2022 scheduled meeting and the 3/30/2022 special meeting is postponed for the next meeting since the minutes had not been provided to the CRC members.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

OLD BUSINESS: Two-person work teams as leaders on Work Plan projects:

- a. Comms. Bencola and Terretta: Framework for difficult conversations. Start by inviting Marcella Bondie from the Climate Plan team to learn from their community engagement model.
- b. Institutional change -working with the Trustees and Village Manager to think about racial policies/practices for policies around Village Hall. No support was received from the Board the last time but now they seek to have meeting with the Village Manager and Trustees to find out where they are willing to go with racial equity. They are seeking the help of other CRC members for the creation of talking points and guiding questions. Comm. Terretta's class conflicts with the meeting time but she and Comm. Bencola will still meet.
- c. Comm. Sakiyama wants to know if anyone wants to step in and work with him on the Partnerships portion. Comm. Quinn is willing to switch around.

There were no other partner reports. Chrmn. Brewer may take a look at doing some reshuffling of the teams due to a resignation and some non-attendance of members. Chrmn. Brewer will make suggestions be for the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Upcoming celebrations – Day In Our Village (DIOV) 6/5, Juneteenth 6/19, and July 4th Parade 7/4.

For the DIOV – Comms. Sakiyama and Quinn volunteered to be at the booth. The CRC will promote the CRC, Juneteenth, outreach and data collection. Comm. Bencola will provide a spinning wheel with questions about the Village of Oak Park. Residents will be encouraged to complete the “Why I Choose Oak Park” cards. Comm. Puentes will get the candy and design the wheel. Comm. Bencola will be reimbursed for the wheel purchase.

For the Juneteenth celebration – Chrmn. Brewer will be out of town then. There will be two activities – a flag raising ceremony 6/11 at 12:00pm at Village Hall and a parade/picnic on 6/19 at 10:00am. Per Dir. Melton, there is not much manpower needed. Per Trustee Enyia, there will be a live stream and help from the CRC is appreciated. Trustee Enyia will create a flyer and give to Dir. Melton to make 250 copies.

For the July 4th Parade – CRC members were asked for assistance with marking the line-up numbers on the street manning the information table, and showing people where their spots are. CRC members who are interested in volunteering should contact Cedric Melton. Members can march in the parade. Notify Cedric by 6/24. Comm. Quinn is willing to march. Chrmn. Brewer will poll the CRC to see who else is willing to march in the parade.

Chrmn. Brewer needs to replace Comm. Flowers as part of the team responsible for Partnerships with Comm. Sakiyama. The partnership list and the fully approved work plan will be sent to all CRC members.

Comm. Bencola inquired about a plan for filling the open commissioner spot. Chrmn. Brewer related that Clerk Waters is aware of the vacancy and he will reach out to the Clerk as the CIC may have candidates waiting. Comm. Bencola also added that CRC members and ask around the community and point interested candidates to the Clerks office.

Next meeting will be virtual on 6/20/2022. Motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Sakiyama and seconded by Comm. Bencola. Meeting adjourned at 7:57p.m.