

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
August 17, 2022 – 7:00 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING**

PRESENT: Comms. Brewer, Quinn, Rodriguez, Terretta,

ABSENT: Comms. Sakiyama, Puentes, Bencola (Comm. Bencola will be back in October)

STAFF: Cedric Melton

CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on 3/16/2022- motioned by Comm. Quinn, seconded by Comm. Rodriguez. Approval of the minutes from the special meeting on 3/30/2022 motioned by Comm. Terretta, seconded by Comm. Quinn. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting on 7/20/2022 motioned by Comm. Quinn, seconded by Comm. Rodriguez.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Chrmn Brewer introduced the new Village of Oak Park Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer, Dr. Danielle Walker. Dr. Walker offered a brief introduction and looks forward to working with the CRC around Racial Equity and elevating awareness in the Village of Oak Park. CRC members welcomed Dr. Walker and they look forward to working with her as well.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Workplan updates – Chrmn Brewer asked the CRC members for information about some potential candidates for the commission as there are two vacancies due to resignations. Comm. Quinn reported that she hopes to have an update on Programming by next meeting. As for the Education component, Comm. Quinn inquired as to the ability of the CRC to have a social media presence as it is a great way to reach the residents of the village. Chrmn Brewer will ask the village manager and village attorney and will let all CRC members know. Comm. Rodriguez believes that the subject was brought up in the past but it could not be done. However, Comm. Rodriguez offered to assist Chrmn Brewer with obtaining the answer.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. CRC Grant Applications – Comm. Quinn reported that there was only one application for a grant from Race Conscious Dialogues. Staff Melton related that the Communications Department has tailored a blurb for the grant application, which will go out to all of the

social media outlets on 8/19/2022. Comm. Rodriguez informed the CRC members that the score card for the grant applications has been updated and reformatted. Through a collaborative effort, the CRC members made additional modifications to the score card which align with the purpose of the CRC's mission. It was agreed that the current grading scale would remain the same. Per Chrmn Brewer, the updated score card will be sent back out to the members and it will be used to rate the applications after the application close date of 9/14/2022. Commissioners were also asked to submit recommendations of what they think funding should be. Comm. Quinn will send all the grant applications received to all commissioners on 9/15/2022. Score cards are to be completed and ready to present by next meeting.

Prior to adjourning, Comm Rodriguez suggested that after the grant activity, the CRC takes a policy and collectively run it through the racial equity toolkit since the Board is busy working on their current policy reviews. Once a month, the CRC would focus on a policy and send it to Dr. Walker or to the Board. Comm Brewer added that in September, the CRC chooses a policy and in October, they have a discussion. Comm. Terretta also suggested that the CRC, through the liaison Trustee, get a short list of items that he feels will intersect with the Board's priorities. With the CRC having different connections to the community, maybe there are things that the Board will welcome input from the CRC on, thereby addressing two value-adds, and the CRC will still align with the Board. Chrmn Brewer will send an email to the liaison Trustee and copy Comm. Terretta on it. Comm Rodriguez asked Staff Melton about any upcoming events in which the CRC can use to push information out about the vacant commission seats as well as the grant information. Staff Melton suggested that the grant program will take care of itself through the social media outlets and that the CRC connect with the Citizens Involvement Committee (CIC) to assist with securing members as well. Staff Melton clarified that Comm. Quinn is the point of contact for the grant applications.

Next meeting will be virtual on 9/21/2022. Motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Quinn and seconded by Comm. Rodriguez. Meeting adjourned at 7:46p.m.