



**MEETING MINUTES  
CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2024, 7:00 P.M.  
VILLAGE HALL, ROOM 101**

**A. Call to Order**

Chair Kolar called the regular meeting to order at 7:01 P.M.

**B. Roll Call**

Present: Commissioners Elling, Lott, Roman, Song, and Chair Kolar

Absent: Commissioners Eid, Kill, Miller, Wesonga

Also present: Clerk Waters

**C. Agenda Approval**

Commissioner Lott moved to approve the agenda; Commissioner Song seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

**D. Minutes Approval**

Commissioner Roman moved to approve the minutes of the March 6, 2024 and March 20, 2024 meetings as amended; Commissioner Song seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

**E. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**F. New Business**

A. A Motion to Conduct Volunteer Applicant Interviews for the Following Individuals to be Considered for an Advisory Board, Commission and/or Committee:

- i. Camile Lindsay Kumi – Citizen Police Oversight Committee (CPOC)
- ii. Paul E Ribera – Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) or Housing Programs Advisory Committee (HPAC)
- iii. Aster H. – Community Design Commission (CDC), Transportation Commission (TC) or Plan Commission (PC)
- iv. Steven J Brown – Plan Commission (PC) or Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA)

Commissioner Song moved; Commissioner Lott seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Camile Lindsay Kumi has been a resident for 10 years. She is interested in serving on CPOC because she has a background and education in criminal justice. She worked as a prosecutor and was head of the legal department and chief of staff for the Illinois Department of Corrections. She is super passionate and did civil rights litigation when she was practicing law. She loves Oak Park and would love to give back to the community and bring a voice and unique perspective to the committee and how the complaints are reviewed.

Paul Ribera has been a resident since 2016 and spoke of the sense of community in Oak Park. He is a Ph.D. student UIC with a specialty in migration and is writing his dissertation. He is interested in how people within migration interact with government entities. He acknowledged those experiencing homelessness throughout Oak Park and Columbus Park. Migration must be evaluated and changed and we must have legislation allowing people to work.

Steven Brown said Oak Park is a very in demand place to live and is at risk of losing its diversity which made it so unique. Development is one tool to address that problem. He sees Oak Park finding a way to accommodate more residents which will have to be done intentionally and carefully. Making changes to the zoning code should have robust public involvement. He is an avid cyclist and advocate for transportation alternatives.

Aster H. was not present at the meeting. Her interview will be rescheduled for the next meeting.

#### **B. Review of Vacancy Report**

The HPAC chair will be rolling off so that will create a vacancy. President Scaman selects the chairs for the commissions. Staff and commissioners can provide input and make recommendations. Commissioner Lott inquired about the qualifications of chairs and their leadership and conflict management abilities. Chair Kolar said the qualifications depend on the commissions. Commissioner Song said the staff liaison would pick up on the feedback received. Clerk Waters said President Scaman leads in a collaborative way.

#### **C. New Advisory Board, Commission or Committee Appointments at March 12, 2024 and March 19, 2024 Board of Trustees Meetings**

Chair Kolar read the appointments. Clerk Waters said Marcia DiVerde is scheduled to be placed on the April 9 Village Board agenda for appointment to the Farmers' Market Commission. HPC currently has two vacancies.

#### **G. CIC Liaison Reports**

Chair Kolar spoke on behalf of Commissioner Wesonga who provided a draft of an updated commission liaison report. It will be added to the next CIC meeting for approval.

Commissioner Song recommended drafting an interview template and said the applicants should be asked the same questions to be equitable. She noted she is not available for *Day In Our Village* on Sunday, June 2.

#### **H. Staff Liaison Report**

Clerk Waters reported that the Board of Health is pausing on recruitment until a new chair is in place. There will be a Neighborhood Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 13 starting at Village Hall. Staff liaisons can provide valuable information to applicants so Plan Commission applicants will meet with Chair Sturino and the staff liaison Village Planner Craig Failor on a trial basis. Commissioner Song said she appreciates the updates to the application form. Clerk Waters said she meets with the applicants right away. The challenge is having the

applicants meet with the chairs and observe meetings and then getting that communication back when those have taken place. Clerk Waters invited the commissioners to the April 4 CDBG 50th anniversary celebration at Village Hall.

**I. Consideration of Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session.** 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) – Motion to Enter into Executive Session to Discuss the Appointment Recommendations of Volunteers to the Village of Oak Park’s Advisory commissions, Committees and Boards.

Commissioner Roman motioned; Commissioner Song seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Elling, Lott, Roman, Song and Chair Kolar

Absent: Eid, Kill, Miller, Wesonga

The Commission adjourned to Executive Session at 8:26 P.M.

**J. Reconvene to Regular Meeting**

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:40 P.M.

**K. New Business**

A. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Camile Lindsay Kumi to the Citizen Police Oversight Committee

Commissioner Roman motioned; Commissioner Lott seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Elling, Lott, Roman, Song and Chair Kolar

Absent: Eid, Kill, Miller, Wesonga

B. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Paul E. Ribera to the Historic Preservation Commission or Housing Programs Advisory Committee

Commissioner Elling motioned; Commissioner Song seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Elling, Lott, Roman, Song and Chair Kolar

Absent: Eid, Kill, Miller, Wesonga

C. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Aster H. to the Community Design Commission, Transportation Commission or Plan Commission

The applicant was not present at the meeting. The motion was tabled.

D. A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Steven J. Brown to the Plan Commission

Commissioner Song motioned; Commissioner Lott seconded. A roll call vote was taken and the motion

was approved. The roll call was as follows:

Ayes: Elling, Lott, Roman, Song and Chair Kolar

Absent: Eid, Kill, Miller, Wesonga

- E. Lead a discussion on Best Practice Sharing for supporting our Commission Chairs --- Commissioner Wesonga

The item was tabled.

- F. Discussion on agenda topics for upcoming Citizen Involvement Commission meeting(s)

For May 1 agenda:

- Emeritus discussion - Commissioner Elling will send information to Clerk Waters in advance
- Liaison report edits and finalization
- Best Practices discussion
- Flyers in the *Wednesday Journal* (\$330 for 5K inserts) – *Day In Our Village* info booth with programs and where they are located. A flyer can be added at minimal cost. Question about when the *Journal* goes to all residents, not just subscribers.
- *Thursday Night Out* – Select two dates. Determine when to have the conversation with Downtown Oak Park. Create process for event planning.

**L. Old Business**

- G. Calendarization of Activities we discussed at our working meeting

The commissioners were instructed to send additional information to Commissioner Eid to add to the calendar.

**M. Adjourn**

Commissioner Roman moved to adjourn; Commissioner Lott seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Deputy Clerk Hansen