



**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023, 7:00 P.M.
VILLAGE HALL, ROOM 124**

I. Call to Order

Commissioner Kill called the special meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Elling, Kill, Lott (arrived late), Roman, Song, Wesonga

Absent: Commissioners Eid, Miller and Chair Kolar

Also present: President Scaman, Clerk Waters, Urmi Sengupta, Michael Sturino, Miriam Tamayo

III. Agenda Approval

Commissioner Wesonga moved to approve the agenda as presented; Commissioner Roman seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

V. 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:

- a. Anne France – Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee
- b. Urmi Sengupta – Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee
- c. Michael Sturino – Plan Commission
- d. Miriam Tamayo – Plan Commission

No motion was made. Commission went straight into applicant interviews.

Anne France – Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee

She has lived in Oak Park for 20+ years and has three children, one is still at OPRF. She has a master's degree and works in higher education as a project manager. She spoke to Chair Celis and understands the busy season and time commitment. She has not yet observed a meeting. She has been a committee member for boy scout troops and has volunteered for Beyond Hunger and Peace Corps. She has no conflicts with the grant-funded organizations. She is organized and is happy to follow meeting etiquette and get things done. She has no experience reviewing grants though she helped manage budgets for the Boy Scouts.

Miriam Tamayo – Plan Commission

She moved to Oak Park in 2018 for the school districts and community. She was trained as an architect

and understands drawings and master plans. She joined the hospitality industry and has been working for Hyatt Hotels downtown since 2011. She is a design director for the lifestyle brands and has an eye for design. She is pro-density and interested in the built environment and ensuring our community is getting the best possible developments and enhancements for our livelihood. She spoke to Chair Sims and she has watched previous meetings. Oak Park is in a good location and there are opportunities for better connectivity to the city like having more trains and less expensive parking around the stations.

Urmi Sengupta – Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee

She has lived in Oak Park for six years. She attended the University of Chicago and moved into economic development. She is a grantmaker on the impact investments team at the John D. And Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. She has worked there for 10 years and is interested in applying her experience to local community life. She does not write grants; she evaluates grants and the Foundation provides grant funding. She spoke to Chair Celis and watched a meeting and understands the schedule and time commitment. There is a huge move toward supporting organizations that are not the most obvious candidates. She wants to be able to contribute meaningfully at the community level.

Michael Sturino – Plan Commission

He moved to Oak Park in 2006 and has degrees in urban planning and law. He did planning for the Village of Bellwood in the 1980s and staffed their Plan Commission and Zoning Board. He started the West Cook Planners group. He represented suburbs and developers at a municipal law firm. He was board president for West Suburban Senior Services. He was an administrator in Forest Park in 2004 and was involved in the redevelopment of the downtown and CTA Blue Line. He runs the Illinois Road and Transportation Builders Association. He has talked to Chair Sims and was referred by Sandra Sokol. He loves Oak Park for its diversity and history while taking advantage of opportunities. He said he would reveal if he has a connection to anyone that comes before the Plan Commission.

VI. Executive Session

- B) 5 ILCS 120/(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 Song moved; Commissioner Wesonga seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The Commission adjourned to Executive Session at 8:13 p.m.

VII. Reconvene to Regular Meeting

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:36 p.m.

VIII. New Business Continued

- C) A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Anne France to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee

Commissioner Wesonga moved; Commissioner Song seconded. Commissioner Elling abstained. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

- D) A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Urmi Sengupta to the Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee

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

- E) A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Michael Sturino to the Plan Commission

Commissioner Roman moved; Commissioner Elling seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved.

- F) A Motion to Approve the Volunteer Appointment Recommendation to the Village President of Miriam Tamayo to the Plan Commission

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

IX. Adjourn

Commissioner Wesonga moved to adjourn; Commissioner Roman seconded. A voice vote was taken and the motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Hansen, Deputy Village Clerk