



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
December 2, 2021
7:00PM

Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Galligan Board Room

Board or Commission: Community Relations
Meeting: Regular
Quorum: Yes

Date: December 2, 2021
Called to Order: 7:03 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:40 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chairman	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Absent
Bill Enright	Commissioner	Present
Tauya Forst	Commissioner	Present
Mari Luangrath-Ullrik	Commissioner	Absent
Michelle Roman-Garcia	Commissioner	Present
Kim Thomas	Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
Mark Franz	Village Manager	Present
Emily Rodman	Assistant Village Manager	Present
Kelli Christiansen	Trustee Liaison	Present
Dave Harris	Executive Director of Glen Ellyn Park District	Present
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	Present
Sophie Kenney	Library Youth Department Assistant Director	Present
Public Present:		

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The **December 4, 2021** regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order by Chairman Irwin at **7:03 PM** at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER REMINDER – Chairman Irwin states she wants to make sure we are adhering to Robert's Rules of Order and the parliamentary procedures that we reviewed at our last meeting.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 4, 2021

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 4, 2021 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION BY: Commissioner Enright

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Roman-Garcia

RESULT: UNANIMOUS APPROVAL

D. COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

1. *Library Liaison report* – Sophie Kenney reports every Glen Ellyn household should have received the winter guide. This guide highlights DEI. There is also a land acknowledgement of the Glen Ellyn library reviewed in the guide. The library will also be conducting the "Let's Talk" series on hunger, homelessness, systemic racism and talk therapy. Issues we are hearing from the community.
2. *Park District Liaison report* – Executive Director Harris reports over the last month the park district has had our community outreach with food and blood drives and we incorporated the food drive with our Turkey Trot Run. On December 11, we will be hosting, along with the GE library, a Vaccine Clinic for COVID19 boosters and vaccines and flu shots. The last clinic we hosted, we went through all of our vaccines. We opened the skating rink just before Thanksgiving and the curling lanes opened tonight. Chairman Irwin asks about the scholarships. Harris states scholarships are ongoing. Fundraising has been steady. We have another fundraiser this month that sold out in one day. A Holiday Trolley tour of Naperville. That event generates additional funds for our scholarship program as well as brings awareness.
3. *Trustee Liaison report* – Trustee Christiansen reports that the land acknowledgement at Churchill Woods will be on December 18 at 11:00am. The DuPage County Forest Preserve has approved Midwest Soaring to move in and start a Native American Environmental Education Cultural Center. The village board will do a second reading of the budget on December 6. Letters to Santa are available again this year. Leaf collection has been extended to December 13.

4. *Staff Liaison Report*- Assistant Village Manager Rodman reports the Village has completed DEI training with a majority of the staff. We could offer the training at the commission level if you would like.

E. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None.

F. COMMUNITY REQUESTS

Chicago World Relief Organization Request Update – Assistant Village Manager Rodman reports she reached out to CWRO to follow-up to see if there is a specific family right now in need for the requested address. They replied that no, there is not a specific family. The resident who is interested in hosting a family found CWRO and contacted them. CWRO is not interested in pursuing this request and at this time.

G. COMMISSION STRATEGIC DISCUSSIONS

1. Facilitated Prioritization Exercise – The Commission was asked to review the DEI report and come up with suggestions that would be helpful in achieving their mission. Assistant Village Manager Rodman sets up a prioritization exercise to help prioritize and guide the process. She asks the commission to think about what are the policies/programs the CRC should focus on in the coming year. She asks the CRC to think about the following topics:
 - What has the community done well
 - What are the shortfalls
 - Identify suggestions for how we can make improvements
 - Narrow suggestions down to 3-5 initiatives

The CRC discusses the successes of Glen Ellyn. They are as follows:

- DEI report
- Creation of the CRC
- DEI training for staff and the police department
- Gender diversity within the village
- Leadership support
- Partnerships with various organizations
- Collaboration with NFP
- Diversity within the commission
- Open and honest DEI conversations
- Library efforts
- Large number of refugee groups within the village
- CTA from districts and COD
- Village proclamation 19-04
- LGBTQ proclamation 2021

The CRC discusses the shortfalls of Glen Ellyn. They are as follows:

- Affordable housing
- Increase public awareness
- Honest education in the schools
- Cultural festivals

- Intentional outreach
- Incorporating DEI in village processes
- Looking at policies through a DEI lens
- Welcome diverse businesses
- Community calendar
- Highlighting diversity in the village

The CRC reviews where there are gaps in the successes. They are as follows: create awareness and educate, village policy and training, community outreach, affordable housing, food distribution, health services, attainable and inclusive living.

The CRC prioritizes the gaps in successes and decides on the following initiatives:

- Village Policy and Training
- Community Outreach
- Create awareness & Education
- Attainable & inclusive living

Assistant Village Manager Rodman states, the next steps would be taking these priorities and mapping out the steps needed to accomplish them.

Chairman Irwin thanks Assistant Village Manager Rodman for her help with the prioritization exercise.

H. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Adjournment- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Roman-Garcia, and seconded by Commissioner Forst. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Next Meeting Date – December 2, 2021

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Emily Rodman, Staff Liaison