



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
April 6, 2023
7:00P
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Clayton Room

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

Date: April 6, 2023
Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:16 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chair	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Absent
Bill Enright	Commissioner	Absent
Tauya Forst	Commissioner	Present
Michelle Roman-Garcia	Commissioner	Present
Nancy McKee	Commissioner	Present
Kim Thomas	Commissioner	Present
Sumaiya Syed	Student Commissioner	Absent

Also Present:

Grant Paplauskas	Communications Coordinator	Present
Anne Gould	Trustee Liaison	Absent
Dawn Bussey	Library Executive Director	Present
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	Present

Public Present:

Todd Bower	Glen Ellyn resident	
Avery Bower	Glen Ellyn resident/student of GBW	

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The April 6, 2023 regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order by Chairperson Irwin at 7:00 PM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 2, 2023 MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 2, 2023 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION BY: Commissioner Roman-Garcia

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Thomas

RESULT: Unanimous

C. COMMISSION LIAISON INTRODUCTIONS/REPORTS

1. *Trustee Report* – No Report

2. *Park District Liaison Report* – Park District Liaison reports on upcoming events: April 22 - 2k Glow Run, May 6 – Touch a Truck, May 20 – Bike Rodeo. The summer activity guide comes out on April 26.

3. *Library Liaison Report* – Director Bussey reports the library will have their Human Library event on May 6 from 12:00-4:00. This is an event where individuals share their experiences of prejudice and/or discrimination based on race, religion, sexual preference, class, gender identity, disability, or another aspect of their lives. Participants will be able to register for hour-long sessions to browse book descriptions and “check out” “Books” – community members who have volunteered to share their experiences. The library DEI committee has started our internal training so we are able to help externally. We are learning about spotting mental health issues. The committee is also highlighting various religious holidays and books. We received our very first Ramadan gift. This gift was presented to us by a Muslim family. The gift included treats and cards that gave an explanation about the holiday. This is what we hope to achieve with our DEI training. We want people to feel comfortable to share. We were very touched by this gift. The library is having their Silver Ball fundraiser at the Morton Arboretum in the Ginkgo Room on Friday April 28. There are 40 tickets available. We hope to sell this event out. Please visit the library website.

4. *Staff Report* - Communications Coordinator Paplauskas reports the next phase of the CBD Streetscape and Utility Project has started. The trees have been removed. We will be replacing and adding more trees. The new trees will be planted in soil cells which will allow them to grow faster and larger. COD will be having the Warhol exhibit this summer. The village is also participating in this event and has selected an abstract art that states *We are Glen Ellyn* and it will be displayed on the wall across from Einstein

Bagel in June which will tie into the Warhol exhibit. The Village Board will have a public hearing on the Comprehensive Plan on April 24.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

E. COMMISSION ACTION DISCUSSION

1. Village code Updates – Chairperson Irwin reports the village codes are by-laws of the commission. We are requesting an amendment. The student commissioner position is defined as any student in grades 9-12. We would like to extend that to also include students in higher education and vocational school. The other change to the code is changing references from chairman to chairperson. Chairperson Irwin asks the CRC for a motion to approve these changes. Commissioner McKee motions to approve the Village code change as marked and Commissioner Forst seconds the motion.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE VILLAGE CODE CHANGE AS MARKED

MOTION BY: Commissioner McKee

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Forst

RESULT: Unanimous

2. CRC Priority List – Chairman Irwin asks the CRC if they would like to make any changes to the current priority list. Hearing none, Irwin adds we initially focused on Village Policy and Training, next we would like to focus on Education. Staff Liaison Paplauskas states the commission has done a nice job following the priority list. Chairperson Irwin states she will put together a list of what the commission has accomplished and will present it to the Village Board. Commissioner McKee asks if there is any ongoing DEI training in the village. Staff Liaison Paplauskas will look into this and will report back.

3. CRC Calendar/Program Planning/Partnerships – The CRC discusses upcoming events.

June 01 - Connecting with Community at Glen Ellyn Public Library. (Confirmed.).

June 19, 2023 Consider/explore event commemorating Juneteenth. (This was suggested, but not confirmed.) Chairperson Irwin states last month we discussed doing something for Juneteenth. Perhaps we can join in and support the village board's proclamation. Staff Liaison Paplauskas will mention this to the Village Board

August 2023-Salsa Dancing (Intent to hold event confirmed, details outstanding.) Commissioner Forst still needs to connect with the park district on the logistics of this event. She adds she discussed those who have done the event at COD and they suggest a DJ instead of a band because people are learning and we don't want them to feel pressured. We also need to identify 10 partners who we can target and increase engagement with such as dance studios, food vendors and various businesses. Commissioner Roman-Garcia asks if we are limiting the businesses to only Glen Ellyn.

Chairperson Irwin states no we don't have to limit business partners to only Glen Ellyn. Commissioner Forst will confirm the event with the park district. September 14, 2023 - Speaking at Book Club at Glen Ellyn Public Library. (Confirmed.)- Chairperson Irwin asks the CRC if a few commissioners can attend this event to represent the CRC.

September 2023 - Refugee Experience Simulation with Exodus World Service. (Intent to hold event confirmed, details outstanding. Commissioner Forst states I have met with the person who is willing to share her story and she will come to our May 4 meeting. Her experience is life changing. We would need to have a space where we could set up 7 stations. If we don't have a location for this event, we could hold the event at COD. The event would last about 90 minutes.

4. DEI Resource Guide – Chairperson Irwin states she would like to have a draft framework in the next few months. Commissioner Ali has volunteered to help with the guide. Commissioner Roman-Garcia will connect with Commissioner Ali and will add the draft guide to google docs so the rest of the CRC can assist.

F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Adjournment- Commissioner Roman-Garcia motions and Commissioner McKee seconds to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

The next meeting – May 4, 2023.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Grant Paplauskas, Staff Liaison