



Agenda
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations Commission
Thursday, March 7, 2024
7:00 PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Room 301

Meeting Procedures Statement

Visitors are most welcome to attend all public meetings and can find copies of the Agenda online at www.glenellyn.org prior to the meeting. Any individual with a disability requiring reasonable accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should contact the Village of Glen Ellyn ADA Coordinator, 630-469-5000, at least five (5) business days in advance of the next scheduled meeting.

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

C. Review of Minutes

- 1) February 1, 2024 - CRC Meeting

D. Commission Liaison Reports

- 1) School District Liaison
Park District Liaison
Library Liaison
Village Board Liaison
Staff Liaison
Police Liaison

E. Audience Participation

F. Commission Action Discussion

- 1)
- Women's History Month
 - Partnership Exploration with the Glen Art Theatre. (Could be in collaboration with College of DuPage.)
 - Planning for Commission Quarterly Newsletter.
 - Potentially cover events, outreach and speaking engagements, statements, Did You Know pieces, Civility Pledge, and DEI Resource Guide by the Commission.
 - Followups
 - Civility Pledge - Use in the Village - Reading at the start of Village and Commission Meetings. (The pledge as approved by the Commission in September 2023 is attached.)
 - DEI Resource Guide - status of approval by Village Board.

- Recent Events
 - Afro-Latin Dance and Cultural Event with College of DuPage on Friday, February 23, 2024.

- Upcoming Events/Recognitions:
 - Refugee Journey Simulation, with Exodus World Service at Glen Ellyn Public Library on Saturday, April 20, 2024.
 - Speaking at Glen Ellyn Chamber of Commerce: Tuesday, May 14, 2024.
 - May: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. (Maariya will author Did You Know piece.)
 - June: LGBTQ Pride Month. (<https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about/>.)

G. Next Meeting - April 4, 2024

H. Adjourn



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
February 1, 2024
7:00PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center

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

Date: February 1, 2024
Called to Order: 7:03 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:58 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chairperson	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Present
Molly McGinnis Knapke	Commissioner	Present
Nancy McKee	Commissioner	Present
Robert Moorehead	Commissioner	Present
Maariya Quadri	Student Commissioner	Present
Alisha Badie	Student Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
Grant Paplauskas	Communications Coordinator	Present
Donna Jean Simon	Trustee Liaison	Present
Dawn Bussey	Library Executive Director	Present
David McDonald	Manager of Recreation Services GE Park District	Absent
Beth Clower	Community Services and Instruction Librarian	Present
Public Present:		
Michael Chavarria	Hope Fair Housing Center	
Vicky FitzMaurice	Midwest Soaring Foundation	

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The February 1, 2024 regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order by Chairperson Irwin at 7:03 PM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JANUARY 11, 2024 MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 11, 2024 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION BY: Commissioner McKee

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Ali

RESULT: Unanimous

C. COMMISSION LIAISON INTRODUCTIONS/REPORTS

1. Police Liaison Report– No report.

2. *Trustee Report* – Trustee Simon informs the commission that the budget has been approved by the board. She also notes that there have been no changes regarding the immigrants passing through Glen Ellyn. Chairperson Irwin adds that the CRC's statement on religious intolerance was presented to the Village Board on January 22. Following this presentation, we requested the Village Board to reaffirm and make a statement, which President Senak did.

3. *Park District Liaison Report* – No report

4. *Library Liaison Report* – Director Bussey introduces Beth Clower, Community Services and Instruction Librarian, who provides an update on the Community Cupboard at the Glen Ellyn Public Library. This cupboard, located in the lobby near the Library Services Desk, is a door-less cabinet containing free items for those in need. Thousands of socks, soap, and toothpaste have been given away since its inception. The cupboard is restocked 2-3 times daily. Sponsorship opportunities are available with a minimum donation of \$250 in cash or in kind. Accepted donation items include diapers, socks, soap, toothpaste and essential items not purchasable with SNAP cards. To fully stock the cupboard, it costs \$350-\$450. Scarce donates three times a year. Since its opening in late 2022, the community's need for the cupboard has only increased. For more information, visit the library website.

5. *Staff Report* – Staff Liaison Paplauskas updates the commission regarding the presentation made last Thursday to the League of Women Voters. He explains that Village President Senak mentioned during the presentation that they were pursuing an \$11 million grant for the migrants. However, it was clarified later that he was merely exploring the possibility of securing the grant. Trustee Simon adds that this discussion

happened during the early stages of the migrant situation, but unfortunately, the grant opportunity has since passed.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – Vicky FitzMaurice from the Midwest Soaring Foundation updates the commission on upcoming events. She announces that the Spring Ceremony will take place on March 17 at 11:00 at the McKee House. Vicky mentions that promotion for this event has just begun. Additionally, she shares that they are in the initial stages of planning events for the upcoming year, aiming to host an event every other month.

Michael Chavarria from Hope Fair Housing Center provides an update on the organization's activities. Hope Fair Housing Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to eradicating housing discrimination across Illinois since 1968. He explains that individuals who experience discrimination can contact them for assistance, and their services are provided free of charge. The center is located in Wheaton. In the past year (2022-2023), they received the highest volume of complaints from Glen Ellyn, totaling 12 complaints related to race, income, and sexual orientation discrimination. He mentions that they are funded by tax dollars and recruit housing testers who act as undercover investigators. He notes that most complaints they receive pertain to rental properties. Chairperson Irwin expresses gratitude to Michael for the organization's efforts in combating housing discrimination.

E. COMMISSION ACTION DISCUSSION

1. DEI Resource Guide – The CRC approves the DEI Resource Guide with updated font changes and deems it ready for posting on the website. They express interest in sharing the document with the Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Alliance. Director Bussey will coordinate presentation dates with the Chamber of Commerce. Commissioner Ali volunteers to present the DEI Resource Guide to the Chamber of Commerce.

Additionally, Trustee Simon suggests distributing the guide to all businesses, and Staff Liaison Paplauskas proposes featuring an article in the village newsletter regarding this initiative.

2. Upcoming Events – Latin Dance Event - Commissioner Moorehead reports that he is currently in the process of obtaining a status update from COD regarding the event. The individual previously responsible for planning the event has left and now other individuals are finalizing the planning. Despite this, the event is still scheduled to take place. Commissioner Moorehead will continue to follow up and request a flyer or website link so Glen Ellyn can promote the event. Staff Liaison Paplauskas adds that an invoice for the village's expenses related to the event is also needed.

3. Recognition Month: Did You Know Write-up on Black History Month – Commissioner Badie shares the write-up on Black History Month that she prepared (see attached document). The CRC reviews and discusses the content of the document. Staff Liaison Paplauskas confirms that it will be included in next week's newsletter. Chairperson Irwin expresses gratitude to Commissioner Badie for her work on this piece.

4. Recognition Month: Pride Month Discussion - Chairperson Irwin updates the CRC on the recent village meeting where inquiries were made regarding Glen Ellyn's plans to celebrate Pride Month. The CRC has decided to include it on their calendar and will prepare a write-up accordingly. Chairperson Irwin also seeks suggestions on additional ways to celebrate this month.

Staff Liaison Paplauskas notes that the Village typically does not host events directly but rather partners with organizations that do. Suggestions are made to potentially collaborate with the Downtown Alliance or Chamber of Commerce. Director Bussey suggests highlighting existing events and considering future partnerships for next year. Trustee Simon proposes partnering with The Glen for a movie series, an idea supported by the CRC.

Commissioner Knapke volunteers to reach out to The Glen to explore partnership opportunities for Pride Month and other events.

5. Civility Pledge – How we use it – Chairperson Irwin inquires how the CRC should utilize the Civility Pledge (see attached). Commissioner Knapke proposes displaying it on the wall of every meeting room. Trustee Simon suggests incorporating it into the opening announcement at board meetings, as discussed with some trustees. Chairperson Irwin agrees to include it in the CRC's opening meeting announcements. Trustee Simon commits to discussing it with other trustees to facilitate its implementation.

F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke motions and Commissioner McKee seconds to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

The next meeting – March 7, 2024.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Grant Paplauskas, Staff Liaison



Community Relations Commission

Civility Pledge

September 2023

I pledge to promote civility by listening, being respectful of others, acknowledging that we are all striving to support and improve our community and understanding that we each may have different ideas for achieving that objective.

Source: Illinois Municipal League, Civility Pledge (<https://iml.org/civility>)



Community Relations Commission

Did You Know ...

March 2024

Women's History Month

Introduction

March is a special month dedicated to celebrating Women's History, an opportunity to honor the contributions and achievements of women throughout history. This celebration is not just about reflecting on the past but also about inspiring the present and future by acknowledging the powerful impact women have made and continue to make in society.

Why Celebrate Women's History Month?

Women's History Month serves as a reminder of the significant roles women have played in shaping our world. From suffragettes like Susan B. Anthony and Harriet Tubman to pioneers in aviation like Amelia Earhart, and literary giants like Maya Angelou, March is a time to educate and reflect on the enduring impacts of women.

Origins of Women's History Month

The celebration officially began in 1987, but its roots trace back to 1978 in Sonoma, California, with Women's History Week. Following national recognition by President Jimmy Carter in 1980, Congress expanded the celebration to a month-long observance in 1987, marking March as a period of national reflection and celebration of women's historical achievements.

The Significance of March

The choice of March for Women's History Month ties back to early 20th-century movements for women's rights, including the notable Women's Suffrage Parade in Washington, D.C., on March 3, 1913. March also aligns with International Women's Day on March 8, further emphasizing the global recognition of women's contributions.

2024 Theme: Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

The theme for Women's History Month 2024, announced by the National Women's History Alliance, celebrates "Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion." This theme honors women who have worked tirelessly to create a more fair and inclusive society. Their efforts in eliminating bias and discrimination highlight the importance of a collective effort towards embracing diversity and ensuring equality for all.

Celebrating Women's Contributions

This month, and every day, we recognize the courageous women who have broken barriers and paved the way for future generations. Their advocacy for equity, diversity, and inclusion in all areas of life, from corporate to educational institutions, underscores the critical role women play in driving social change and justice.

How to Participate

- **Support Female-Owned Businesses:** Make a conscious effort to support businesses owned by women.
- **Educate and Share:** Learn about influential women throughout history and share their stories to inspire others.
- **Host Discussions:** Encourage dialogue about the importance of women's history in schools, workplaces, and communities.

Conclusion

Women's History Month is a time to celebrate and reflect on the profound impact of women's contributions to society. As we look back at the achievements of women throughout history, let's also commit to supporting and uplifting the voices of women today. Join us in honoring the legacy and ongoing efforts of women who advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion, shaping a brighter future for all.

Learn More and Get Involved

- Visit the National Women's History Museum: <https://www.womenshistory.org>
- Explore resources and ways to get involved with the National Women's History Alliance: <https://nationalwomenshistoryalliance.org/>



Community Relations Commission

Did You Know ...

March 2024

Women's History Month

"National Women's History Month traces its roots to March 8, 1857, when women from various New York City factories staged a protest over poor working conditions. The first Women's Day celebration in the United States was in 1909, also in New York City. More than seven decades later, Congress in 1981 established National Women's History Week to be commemorated annually the second week of March. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month and every year since has passed a resolution (and the president has issued a proclamation) designating March Women's History Month."

Source: [Key Stats in Honor of Women's History Month – U.S. Census Bureau](#),
[Data on Advances Made By Women – U.S. Census Bureau](#).

Fun Facts: Women's History Month

CENSUS.GOV/SCHOOLS

How It All Started

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More than 7 decades later, Congress in 1981 established National Women's History Week to be commemorated annually the second week of March in 1981. In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month. Every year since, Congress has passed a resolution (and the president has issued a proclamation) designating March Women's History Month.

STEM Careers on the Rise

- In 1970, women made up 8% of STEM* workers and 38% of workers overall.
- By 2019, women in STEM occupations had more than tripled to 27%, and women made up about 48% of the workforce.

Note: STEM is science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. STEM jobs include computer specialists, mathematicians, and engineers. STEM-related occupations consist of architects and healthcare workers.



Civic Duty

- A higher percentage of women 18 years and older were registered to vote and participated more in the voting process than men.
- In 2022, 53% of women voted, compared to 51.3% of men.



Average Age of Women Giving Birth Is Going Up

In 2022, more women ages 30 to 34 had a recent birth than women ages 25 to 29; In 2011, the reverse was true – more women ages 25 to 29 had a recent birth than women ages 30 to 34.



Did You Know?

Did you know there were about **1.9 million more** females aged 85 and older (4.2 million) than males (2.3 million) in 2022?

Educational Attainment

Women 25 years of age and older have the following as their highest degree:

- 25% have a high school diploma or equivalency.
- 10% have an associate degree.
- 22% have a bachelor's degree.
- 15% have a graduate or professional degree



Women in the Workplace

- More than half (59%) of women ages 16 and older participated in the workforce in 2022.
- They made up 47% of the workforce.

Female Population

Over 168 million. There were 168,004,004 women living in the United States – or 50.4% of the population in 2022.

United States[®]
Census
Bureau



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2022 American Community Survey, 1-Year and 5-Year Estimates; 2022 Population Estimates, November 2022 Current Population Survey



Source: [Women's History Month Fun Facts – U.S. Census Bureau](#),
[Women's History Month Fun Facts Infographic – U.S. Census Bureau](#).

Additional Resources

[For Women's History Month, a look at gender gains – and gaps – in the U.S. – Pew Research Center.](#)