



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
April 4, 2024
7:00PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center

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

Date: April 4, 2024
Called to Order: 7:06 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:11 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chairperson	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Absent
Molly McGinnis Knapke	Commissioner	Present
Nancy McKee	Commissioner	Present
Robert Moorehead	Commissioner	Present
Maariya Quadri	Commissioner	Present
Alisha Badie	Student Commissioner	Present
Sabrina Arizari	Commissioner	Present

Also Present:

Grant Paplauskas	Communications Coordinator	Present
Donna Jean Simon	Trustee Liaison	Present

Public Present:

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The April 4, 2024 regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order by Chairperson Irwin at 7:06 PM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 7, 2024 MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 7, 2024 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION BY: Commissioner Moorehead

SECONDED BY: Commissioner McKee

RESULT: Unanimous

C. COMMISSION LIAISON INTRODUCTIONS/REPORTS

1. Police Liaison Report– No report.

2. *Trustee Report* – Trustee Simon informed the commission that she had a brief discussion with Mark Franz regarding the Civility Pledge, which is currently progressing through the system. Regarding the DEI resource guide, it was initially placed on the consent agenda, but the board decided to remove it for further review and discussion at a Village Workshop. Since this guide is new for the village and holds significant visibility, the board wants to carefully review it, as it will serve as a model for the village. The proposed schedule is for it to appear on the workshop agenda sometime in June. Trustee Simon suggested that the CRC attend the workshop to promote the DEI Resource Guide.

Trustee Simon shared an incident in Lombard involving individuals advocating Israeli and Palestinian viewpoints, leading to police intervention. Village Manager Franz expressed a desire for similar incidents in our village, should they arise, to remain apolitical, suggesting this commission as a venue for dialogue. The Community Relations Commission is seen as a resource to address such topics. Chairperson Irwin stressed the commission's role in supporting and advising the village. Trustee Simon emphasized the commission's role in listening, recording, and reporting back to the village if discussions occur at CRC meetings. Commissioner McKee suggested the commission determine how to be neutral listeners. Commissioner Badie referenced COD's meetings on Middle Eastern events and suggested the commission could mediate similar discussions. She also raised the question of an official statement, proposing its preparation if none exists.

3. *Park District Liaison Report* – No report

4. *Library Liaison Report* – Chairperson Irwin provides a reminder to the commissioners to sign up for the Refugee Journey Simulation, which the CRC is co-sponsoring.

5. *Staff Report* – Staff Liaison Paplauskas reports that migrant buses have resumed drop offs in Glen Ellyn. The response from the authorities has been consistent: the police provide escort, help the migrants to the train station, and treat them as visitors. So far, 20 buses in total have been received in Glen Ellyn.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

E. COMMISSION ACTION DISCUSSION

1. Commissioner Moorehead updates the commission on the ongoing discussions regarding film events. He shares that during a meeting with COD, several questions were raised to clarify the CRC's objectives. These included inquiries about specific film selections, student involvement, the need for event space, budget availability, and the desire for collaboration on film choices. COD seeks a clear understanding of the commission's intentions.

In response to Commissioner McKee's question about the target audience and the primary objective of the events, Chairperson Irwin explains that the aim is to provide educational content tied to significant months. Commissioner Quadri suggests exploring the possibility of reaching a wider audience by collaborating with the Glenside Public Library.

Commissioner McGinnis emphasizes the importance of defining the event's audience and purpose before determining the location. Trustee Simon suggests considering partnerships with local organizations in the village that have film groups.

2. Planning for Commission Quarterly Newsletter/eblast – Chairperson Irwin will work on next month's content.

3. Upcoming Events/Recognitions:

- Refuge Journey Simulation – April 20 at the Library.
- May: Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Commissioner Quadri will author the Did You Know piece and possibly include a book recommendation. She will reach out to Dawn Bussey or Shannon.
- June: LGBTQ Pride Month – Student Commissioner Badie to author the Did You Know piece.
- Juneteenth – Student Commissioner Badie to author the Did You Know piece.

F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Commissioner McGinnis motions and Commissioner Badie seconds to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

The next meeting – May 4, 2024.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Grant Paplauskas, Staff Liaison