



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
October 3, 2024
7:00PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center

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

Date: October 3, 2024
Called to Order: 7:05 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:23 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chairperson	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Present
Molly McGinnis Knapke	Commissioner	Present
Nancy McKee	Commissioner	Present
Maariya Quadri	Commissioner	Absent
Alisha Badie	Student Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
Grant Paplauskas	Communications Coordinator	
Donna Jean Simon	Trustee Liaison	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Public Present:		

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The October 3, 2024 regular meeting of the Community Relations Commission was called to order by Chairperson Irwin at 7:05 PM at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM June 6, 2024 MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM June 6, 2024 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING

MOTION BY: Commissioner Ali

SECONDED BY: Commissioner McKee

RESULT: Unanimous

C. COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

1. *Trustee Report* – Trustee Simon provided several updates, noting that the Village Board is currently in the midst of the budget process, with weekly workshops taking place. Last week, the focus was on reviewing the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) budget. The largest portion of the village budget is allocated to the police fund, which accounts for 50% of the total budget, followed by the CIP. The trustees have requested a zero-growth budget this year to avoid increasing the tax burden on residents, and staff has successfully met this goal.

Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke inquired about the budget process and whether fees are part of the discussions. Trustee Simon clarified that fees are considered separately from the budget but are still taken into account.

Trustee Simon also provided an update on the DuPage Health Coalition, an organization that provides healthcare services through partnerships with hospitals and healthcare providers to assist those in need. Notably, the coalition is not funded by taxpayer dollars. They help individuals with medical debt by negotiating lower bills and also provide assistance with healthcare costs and prescriptions. Trustee Simon expressed surprise at the level of need in DuPage County and wanted to inform the commission about this service. She emphasized that the Community Relations Commission is not solely focused on DEI but also on providing resources to people in need. She suggested that the commission could help raise awareness of this valuable service.

2. *Park District Liaison Report* – No report

3. *Library Liaison Report* – No report

4. *Staff Report* – No report

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

E. COMMISSION ACTION DISCUSSION

1. DEI Resource Guide – Chairperson Irwin provided an update, noting that the Village Attorney reviewed the DEI Resource Guide last week and made some editorial revisions. She asked the CRC if there were any comments regarding the edits and requested a motion for approval. Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke motioned to approve the DEI Resource Guide, as revised in September 2024, and Commissioner Badie seconded the

motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Refugee Journey Simulation with COD - Chairperson Irwin and Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke met with the College of DuPage (COD), and COD expressed interest in partnering with the CRC for the upcoming Refugee Journey Simulation. During the discussion, it was agreed that the CRC/Village logo would be included in promotional materials, with no budget impact for the commission. Chairperson Irwin asked the CRC if they would like to partner with COD again this year. Commissioner McKee inquired about the benefit of this partnership. Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke explained that the village would help amplify the event by partnering. Trustee Simon emphasized the importance of keeping this event visible to raise awareness.

Commissioner McKee motioned for the Community Relations Commission to partner with COD on the Refugee Journey Simulation this November; Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Film Initiative (College of DuPage) - Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke provided an update on the film initiative, noting that partnering with CoD would allow the Village to amplify the event's reach. The films for the fall have already been selected, but there may be an opportunity for more input in the spring. She asked if the CRC was interested in partnering with CoD, and the commission expressed its support. Additionally, they discussed the possibility of contributing to the Global Flicks series by selecting a film of their choice and potentially providing financial support for the event. Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke will reach out to Global Flicks for more information.

F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Commissioner McGinnis-Knapke moved and Commissioner Ali seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Next meeting – November 7, 2024.

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Grant Paplauskas, Staff Liaison