



Minutes
Village of Glen Ellyn
Community Relations
Regular Meeting
February 6, 2025
7:00PM
Glen Ellyn Civic Center

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

Date: February 6, 2025
Called to Order: 7:00 p.m.
Adjourned: 8:19 p.m.

MEMBER ATTENDANCE:

Sania Irwin	Chairperson	Present
Mir Ali	Commissioner	Present
Molly McGinnis Knapke	Commissioner	Absent
Amanda Musacchio	Commissioner	Present
Nancy McKee	Commissioner	Present
Maariya Quadri	Commissioner	Present
Alisha Badie	Student Commissioner	Present
Also Present:		
Kelley Kalinich	Trustee	
Grant Paplauskas	Communications Coordinator	
Elisa Pollina	Recording Secretary	
Public Present:		

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL - The February 6, 2025 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 January 22, 2025 MEETING

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM January 22, 2025 COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING as amended

MOTION BY: Commissioner McKee

SECONDED BY: Commissioner Badie

RESULT: Unanimous

C. COMMISSION LIAISON REPORTS

1. *Government Partners* – No report

2. *Police Department* – No report

3. *Village Board* – Trustee Kalinich shared several updates, beginning with the Full Circle development project. The developer will be presenting at tonight's public Plan Commission meeting regarding the proposed affordable housing project at the former hotel site on Roosevelt Road. The first step is securing approval from the Plan Commission, after which the project will go before the Village Board in late February or early March.

She also provided an update on the Train Station project, stating that the Village has secured several federal grants to help fund the initiative. The team is currently verifying the availability of these funds and moving forward with engineering and planning.

Regarding Micro Mobility Devices—including bikes, scooters, and e-bikes—Kalinich noted that discussions are ongoing. The Board recently held a workshop to review the use of these devices on sidewalks, as current ordinances prohibit their use, though enforcement has been inconsistent. Safety concerns from the community have been raised, prompting research into how other municipalities handle similar issues. The potential for e-bikes to be permitted on streets is also under consideration.

4. *Staff Report* – Staff Liaison Paplauskas shared several updates, including the launch of the ADA Transition Plan study. The first public meeting will take place this month, and the study will assess streets and sidewalks throughout Glen Ellyn to ensure ADA compliance. This initiative is being funded by a grant from CMAP.

Additionally, College of DuPage will host the Hokusai and Ukiyo-e – The Floating World Exhibit, an art installation at the McAninch Arts Center (MAC). As part of this cultural initiative, two murals will be created—one in downtown Glen Ellyn and another at Paris Baguette. The exhibit and murals will be accompanied by various cultural and educational events throughout the village. The installation and celebration will take place from May through September.

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION – None

E. COMMISSION ACTION DISCUSSION

1. *Community Belonging Training* - Chairperson Irwin shared that she and Commissioner Ali met with trainer Dominique Baldin to discuss strategies for engaging businesses, village staff, and commissioners. As a result, they developed a training series titled "Belonging in a Thriving Community" (see attached handout).

Irwin outlined the training roadmap, which includes three sessions, each covering a distinct topic and potentially incorporating interactive activities to enhance engagement. The sessions will be held on weekdays during lunchtime, allowing village staff to participate. The Community Relations Commission reviewed and approved the approach, confirming that the event will be officially sponsored by the CRC.

The training sessions will take place at the Glen Ellyn Civic Center, with lunch provided by the CRC. The commission reviewed potential dates and selected March 19, April 23, and May 21.

Next Steps:

- Commissioner Quadri will create an Evite invitation to track RSVPs.
- Quadri will also explore food options, including potential sponsorships from Glen Ellyn businesses.
- Chairperson Irwin will coordinate securing a venue, with Grant Paplauskas assisting by connecting her with the appropriate village staff.
- Chairperson Irwin and Commissioner Ali to confirm dates with trainer.

Training Sessions Overview:

Session 1 - Knowing Self, Knowing Others – Focuses on self-awareness and unconscious bias.

Session 2 - Cultural Competence – Explores who makes up the community and shared commonalities.

Session 3- Opportunities to Participate in Different Cultures – Encourages engagement with diverse cultural experiences.

2. Did You Know Write-up(s) - Chairperson Irwin thanked Commissioner Badie for compiling the film list for Black History Month. The CRC then reviewed the Black History Month write-up. Commissioner Quadri motioned to approve the write-up as presented, with Commissioner Badie seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Irwin suggested highlighting community members alongside the "Did You Know" write-ups by featuring individuals who embody the spirit of the month being recognized. She proposed creating a community profile template to showcase these individuals. In addition to community members, the initiative could also spotlight students from both high schools and possibly the College of DuPage. Chairperson Irwin then asked if a commissioner would be interested in leading this effort. Commissioner Musacchio volunteered to take the lead, with Commissioner Badie assisting.

Commissioner Quadri volunteered to write the "Did You Know" feature on Ramadan.

3. Dance/Cultural Event Partnership with COD in February - Commissioner Musacchio provided an update, stating that after following up with COD, a spring event will not take place. However, there is potential for consideration in the fall.

F. ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE

Commissioner Badie moved and Commissioner Ali seconded to adjourn the meeting.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m.

Next meetings – March 6, 2025. (Commissioner McKee Chairperson Pro-Tem),
April 3, 2025 (Commissioner McKee Chairperson Pro-Tem),
May 8, 2025

Submitted by Elisa Pollina, Recording Secretary

Reviewed by Grant Paplauskas, Staff Liaison