
Cultural Inclusion and Diversity Committee
MEETING MINUTES
June 15, 2009, Village Hall, Room 101 7:15 PM

Committee Members Present:

Phillip Anderson, Maura Contreras, Kenneth Griesemer, Mathew Idicula, Manhar Patel, Gayle Peneschi, and Ron Woods.

Others Present:

Trustee Toni Carter (Board Liaison), Sandra Vincent Richard, Staff Liaison, and Linda McCance Packham, and from the Hanover Park Park District: Lily Garcia, Mark Dolphin, and Braulio Herrera.

Others Absent:

Rohit Bhatt, Laura Ehorn, Debra McDonald, Rev. Craig Stroder, Maria Washington, and Jammye Woods,.

I. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:26 p.m.

Welcome

The Committee welcomed the Hanover Park Park District employees to our meeting. They had recently learned about the existence of the Cultural Inclusion and Diversity Committee and came to observe what we do.

II. Presentation of Agenda

A motion was made by Ken Griesemer for approval of the Agenda as presented. It was seconded by Rev. Mathew Idicula. A voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays or abstentions. The motion passed and the Agenda was approved as presented.

III. Approval of Minutes from May 18, 2009.

A motion was made by Ken Griesemer to approve the Minutes from May 18, 2009 as presented. The motion was seconded by Gayle Peneschi. A voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays or abstentions. The motion passed; and the Minutes from May 18, 2009 were approved as presented.

IV. Presentation by Rev. Mathew Idicula

Rev. Mathew Idicula, Ph.D. provided the Committee with an overview of his doctorate thesis titled: Culture and Its Relevance in the Christian Community. His thesis discusses what is culture and using the Church of South India as an example he describes the limits of culture in a Christian community.

V. Update – Wellness on Wheels Van for July

The Staff Liaison reported that after contacting the State agency that provides the Wellness on Wheels Vans she learned that although they Vans are provided at no cost, the sponsoring group needs to secure and pay for providers and supplies for the vans. Also, they require an anticipated guarantee of 100 recipients for service

before they will agree to come out to an area. Since the Committee's budget would not support this level of commitment, the Committee decided to no longer consider offering this type of program.

However, Trustee Carter indicated that she is planning a program on domestic violence for July 11th.

VI. Old Business

A. Call-in Options

The Staff Liaison reported that she had not yet received a response from the Village's attorney regarding her request for a legal opinion regarding the definition of a quorum for various types of committees and commissions, and teleconferencing. The Committee then had some discussion about what a committee vs. a commission was. Trustee Carter mentioned they are treated differently in Hoffman Estates. Their commissions have more leeway in handling funds and scheduling events. Linda Packham mentioned that each town may treat them differently based upon local policies and ordinances.

B. 501(c)3 Designation

The Staff Liaison distributed information regarding establishing a 501(c)3 organization. Gayle Peneschi indicated that she had just applied for 501(c)3 designation on behalf of the Community Resource Coalition. Donations to a 501(c)3 are tax exempt. Trustee Carter indicated that we would potentially be able to help out our Social Services division in the Police Department with any supplemental funds. She then suggested we should hold a workshop just to identify the five ways we can help our community.

VII. New Business

A. DuCAP

Gayle Peneschi and Phil Anderson informed the Committee about what is happening with the DuCAP Program and its impact on the Community Resource Coalition as a result of the State budget deficits. The State will no longer fund DuCAP effective July 1, 2009. They will close their program which is based in the Tanglewood neighborhood. DuCAP is open Monday through Friday during the summer providing programs for children. They provide training in life skills, reading, field trip, swimming, etc. They charge \$75 per participant for the summer programs and no charge during the school year. July 1st DuCAP will end; but they plan to continue the Community Resource Coalition if they can obtain funding. They currently need \$10,000 to operate and plan to request funding from the Village Board through the summer. In addition they are soliciting for funds from the community. Right now they are looking for any donation.

Lily Garcia, Hanover Park Park District, mentioned the the Hanover Park Foundation also helps out children per season through its Youth Assistance Program (YAP). They also provide scholarships for some youth programs.

Maura Contreras made a motion that the Cultural Inclusion and Diversity Committee provide half of its available funds up to a maximum of \$2,000 to support the Hanover Park Community Resource Coalition. Rev. Mathew Idicula seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays nor abstentions. The motion passed. Since the Community Resource Coalition is a non-profit agency external to Village operations, the CIDC will request

authorization from the Village Board to make such a donation. The Staff Liaison will prepare an Agenda Item requesting authorization for the donation.

Phil Anderson announced that the Community Resource Coalition was hosting a teen party for the community on June 20th at 7 p.m. The event was free for participants. They were also looking to sponsor a 3 on 3 basketball tournament in that area to show teens what types of activities and programs they have for them. They are open every Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They have computers and X-boxes, and ESL classes for both parents and children. This program is particularly important for the area as the summer school program was cut by the school district this year.

B. Next Agenda

Add planning for the rest of the fiscal year. It was suggested that Committee members provide ideas for topics. July 11th will be the domestic violence program.

Lily Garcia mentioned the Park District will be hosting its 6th annual Mexican Independence Day Celebration on September 18th. She suggested that the CIDC could partner with them. It is on a Friday evening from 6-9 p.m. She also mentioned that they host a Mexican Consulate two to three times a year. Trustee Carter asked Lily if she would coordinate with Maura Contreras how our Committee might work with the Park District regarding these programs.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Gayle Peneschi and seconded by Ken Griesemer for adjournment. A voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays and no abstentions. Motion passed.

Sandra Vincent Richard, 6/15/2009
Recorded by / Date

Approved by / Date