
**Cultural Inclusion and Diversity Committee
MEETING MINUTES**

September 21 , 2009, Village Hall, Room 101 7:15 PM

Committee Members Present:

Eira Corral, Kenneth Griesemer, Gayle Peneschi, Maria Bond, Mathew Idicula, Manhar Patel, and Ron Woods.

Others Present:

Trustee Lori Kaiser (Board Liaison), Sandra Vincent Richard (Staff Liaison), Linda McCance Packham and Frank Grant-Acquah.

Others Absent:

Phillip Anderson, Maura Contreras, Rohit Bhatt, Laura Ehorn, Debra McDonald, and Jammye Woods.

I. Call to Order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. Presentation of Agenda

A motion was made by Mathew Idicula for approval of the Agenda as presented. It was seconded by Gayle Peneschi. 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 August 17, 2009.

A motion was made by Ken Griesemer to approve the Minutes from August 17, 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 August 17, 2009 were approved as presented.

IV. Program Planning

A. Holiday Lights Tour

Ken Griesemer provided the Committee with some history about this event, which originally was a Lion's Club initiative. The Committee then discussed possible ways the CIDC could be involved in this event. One suggestion was that different cultural groups could decorate trees to reflect their respective cultures. Another suggestion was that the Village could use "Diversity" as a theme for this year's event. Other suggestions were to have one tree at the inside location of the event and decorate it with ornaments representing different cultures or to have photos of each culture's ornaments on a display board with an explanation of what each represents. The Committee decided to make and purchase ornaments representing various cultures for a CIDC tree and would finalize the plans at the November meeting. The date of the event is December 4th at 6:30 p.m. They also suggested distributing the flyers in different languages.

B. Symposium on Strengthening the Family

The Committee decided to defer discussion on this event to a future meeting since it is now scheduled for April 2010.

V. FY2011 Budget—Preliminary Discussion

The Committee was asked by Chairman Woods to come back to the October meeting with ideas for putting together the 2011 budget. One suggestion made by several members was to plan events celebrating different months from the prior year. The Committee also recommended limiting events to one per quarter.

VI. Old Business

A. Mexican Independence Day Celebration at the Hanover Park Park District

Eira Corral described the art project the CIDC had at this event. Participants, who were mostly children, were asked to describe what cultural diversity means to them in their art. Eira then passed around the art work completed by the participants. She also mentioned that we had a representative from the U. S. Census to talk about the importance of participating in the census. We also handed out magnets to attendees with information about the CIDC and awarded prizes to “winners” of the art projects based on age groups. Ken Griesemer commented that it would have been nice to have Committee members wearing a unique polo shirt identifying them as CIDC members. He also mentioned that the way the room was set up at the Park District, it would have been a great facility for our multicultural event; and is something we should consider in the future.

VI. New Business

Linda McCance Packham announced that the Sister Cities group is planning a trip to Ghana for a 5-day conference and then on to Cape Coast. She invited members to join them if interested.

Rev. Mathew Idicula invited members to celebrate the 50th anniversary of St. Columba Church.

VII. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ken Griesemer and seconded by Eira Corral for adjournment. A voice vote was taken. All ayes, no nays and no abstentions. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Sandra Vincent Richard, 9/21/2009
Recorded by / Date

Approved by / Date