



Human Relations Commission

Minutes

June 4, 2020 6:30 P.M.

via Teleconference

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Members present: Sharveta Parker, Jesse Dercks, Matt Weiss, McKenzie Edmonds, Deba Briscoe, Julia Appel, and Mira Lee Prabhu (arrived at 6:36 p.m.)

Members not present: Maria Van Hoorn, Sarah Spencer,

Others present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Trustee Wesley Warren, Trustee Jessica Carpenter, Lt. Thomas Liebenthal, Natraj Shanker, School Board member Clarke Warren

2. Consider Approval of February 20, 2020 minutes

Ms. Edmonds moved to approve the February 20, 2020 minutes. Motion seconded by Ms. Appel. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

3. Discuss and possibly consider recommendation on trick or treating hours

Mr. Burkart summarized the background of trick or treating and why it was previously decided to be on Sundays from 1-4 p.m. Trustee Carpenter provided her thoughts and summarized articles that presented how the way we've done trick or treating in the past has been exclusive. Trustee Warren also summarized the discussions in regards to pros and cons of trick or treating that occurred at the Village Board level. The Commission communicated their thoughts related to trick or treating. Some expressed how neighborhoods coordinating their own trick or treating can create an exclusive culture. Members mentioned that all the suburbs selecting the same time to have trick or treating reduces the ability to have children outside of their community from participating, creating an exclusive tone. Others expressed safety concerns with doing trick or treating at night. Other concepts discussed involved two trick or treating hours (one during the day and one at night) or incorporating the business district to host special trick or treating hours. Mr. Burkart mentioned the Night of the Ghost Train has been an event that tries to get the business district involved. There was debate whether trick or treating would improve the availability of trick or treating for children outside of Shorewood.

Ms. Parker moves to keep trick or treating from 2-5 p.m. on Sundays. Mr. Dercks seconded the motion. Question was called on ending debate, which was approved 7-0. Original motion was approved 6-1.

4. Discuss coordinating gathering or effort to demonstrate solidarity

There is an event on Saturday at 1 p.m. starting at Atwater Park and completing a 7-mile walk. Whitefish Bay will also be doing a walk starting at the same time, and the two groups plan on converging at some point during their walk. There is a Facebook event with more information in regards to the solidarity walk. The Commission decided to promote this event. Mr. Burkart mentioned the Police Department is aware of the event on Saturday. There was additional discussion about the recent events and ways the Village coordinated its efforts for issuing the curfew and policing activities.

5. Future Agenda Items and Speakers

There was brief discussion about whether or not the Commission should make a recommendation on the Farmers Market. Mr. Burkart mentioned by the time they meet again in July this issue will already be resolved. Ms. Briscoe shared about 8 can wait campaign, and the Commission expressed a desire to discuss this more. The Commission would also like to review the excessive force policy. The Commission also wants to discuss the procurement of weapons and devices from the Police Department that could be seen as militaristic and understand the reasoning behind purchasing these items.

6. Adjournment

Ms. Prabhu moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Appel. Motion approved by 7-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart,
Assistant Village Manager