



Human Relations Commission

Minutes

June 24, 2020 6:30 P.M.

via Teleconference

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Members present: Sharveta Parker, Matt Weiss, McKenzie Edmonds, Maria Van Hoorn, Mira Lee Prabhu, and Julia Appel

Members not present: Sarah Spencer, Jesse Dercks, Deba Briscoe

Others present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, School Board Member Clarke Warren, School Board Member Emily Berry, School Board Member Pablo Muirhead, Trustee Wesley Warren, Lt. Tom Liebenthal

2. Consider Approval of June 16, 2020 minutes

Change discussing to discussion, capitalize Black in Black Lives Matter as well as Black psychologist. Ms. Appel moved to approve the June 16, 2020 minutes. Motion seconded by Ms. Edmonds. Motion approved by a 6-0 vote.

3. Discuss community forum framework on race, equity, diversity, and inclusion

Mr. Burkart summarized the memorandum outlining questions to help develop a framework. The Commission discussed each of the questions, and this was the result of their responses.

FOR THE HRC COMMUNITY FORUM

How would the forum be conducted?

The Commission mentioned that due to the NSHD Phase C reopening guidelines that the forum would need to occur virtually. The Commission would like the chat function to be open for the discussion. Mr. Burkart mentioned the facilitator could mention some rules or best practices with the chat function at the beginning of the meeting.

When would the forum take place?

Mr. Burkart mentioned the best date based on the Village calendar and those officials who would be in attendance is July 14. Mr. Warren reminded the Commission that the School Board meets that night. Mr. Burkart will talk with staff about perhaps rescheduling the CDA-Village Board strategic planning meeting or potentially pushing the School Board meeting later in the evening.

Who would facilitate the forum?

The Commission discussed some potential professionals that could facilitate the discussion. Monique Liston would be the preliminary option. Representative David Bowen, Senator Lena Taylor, and Reggie Jackson were other options discussed. Mr. Burkart will reach out to confirm availability of these options. Once a facilitator is selected, Mr. Burkart will setup a meeting with them and the subcommittee chairs to finalized details related to the forum.

What other community members do you want to invite to the forum to speak or participate in a specific manner?

Some of the options discussed include Norma Duckworth, other students, those that attended and spoke at the meeting on June 16, Stephanie Roades, Sam Coleman, Shavonda Sisson, staff from the Police Department, chairs and other volunteer committee members, community service groups, and other professionals from nearby schools and universities.

Should there be pre-established questions to help facilitate the conversation? If so, what should those questions be?

The Commission mentioned breaking into small groups to discuss some questions established by the Commission. There would be a time limit that would allow all the small groups to return at the same time. There was discussion about whether the breakout rooms should be assigned a specific topic to discuss or if all the breakouts should respond to similar questions. However, without a facilitator, the Commission feels it is difficult to know how they would want to go about the breakout rooms and further questions.

How would community members be allowed the opportunity to speak?

Community members could speak in the large forum or during the breakout groups.

Would there be a time limit for those speaking?

A recommended time limit of three minutes was proposed and agreed upon by the Commission.

Can community members engage with each other in discussion during the forum or do they direct their responses to the Commission?

Yes, the Commission would engage with each other in discussion.

How will the forum be communicated to the public and other community partners?

The Village would use all of its communication channels.

How will the Commission document and make note of the experiences and suggestions shared during the forum?

All Commission members would be responsible for taking notes during the discussion. In addition, the recording setting would be selected.

Mr. Burkart mentioned that after the forum, the sub-committees would meet to discuss the initiatives shared during the forum to put together a plan that the Commission and eventually the Village Board would consider adopting. Mr. Burkart asked the Commission what they would like to call the forum. Shorewood Speaks: Candid Conversations on Progress towards Racial Equity.

4. Discuss HRC Representative for Police Department Org Study

Mr. Burkart summarized the Police Department org study for the Commission. The Commission will be able to have a representative serve on the selection committee the afternoons of July 13 or 14. Ms. Parker recommended Mr. Dercks based on his area of work. Mr. Weiss also would be willing to help. Mr. Burkart will reach out to each Commission member after the meeting to find out availability for the interviews.

5. Subcommittee Reports

Ms. Edmonds provided a brief update from the Dada subcommittee and their recent discussions with the Police Department on the traffic data and other reports. Ms. Appel mentioned Ms. Briscoe's perspectives on hate speech and unlawful activity. There was discussion on how the Commission should engage in this discussion before taking it to the Village Board.

6. Future Agenda Items and Speakers

The next full Human Relations Commission meeting would be August 13.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Prabhu moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Appel. Motion approved by 6-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart,
Assistant Village Manager