

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE  
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION  
Wednesday, May 31, 2023  
Village Hall Rm 101 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Comms. Rodriguez, Puentes, Sakiyama, Bencola, Quinn, Griffin, Coats (on-boarding), Tr. Enyia

**ABSENT:** Comm. Terretta

**STAFF:** Cassandra Adediran, Dr. Danielle Walker

**CALL TO ORDER:** 7:07 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Motion by Comm Sakiyama; seconded by Comm Quinn

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve March 15, 2023 meeting minutes by Comm Bencola; seconded by Comm Puentes. The April 19, 2023 meeting minutes will be approved at the next meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

Chairperson Rodriguez welcomed new Trustee Juanta Griffin and on-boarding appointee Bill Coats to the Community Relations Commission.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Chairperson Rodriguez informed the CRC members that the grant process needs to be finalized on this evening. Dr. Walker provided each member a CRC Mini Grant Program packet which contained information on the purpose, overview, guidelines, and other details of the mini grant program. Members were given the opportunity to participate in editing as well as giving and gaining clarity on particular items. The members concluded review of the mini grant program packet with a roll call vote to accept the mini grant process with necessary edits/corrections:  
Bencola=Yes            Griffin= Yes            Puentes=Yes  
Quinn= Yes            Rodriguez=Yes            Sakiyama=Yes  
Not Present: Terretta

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Chairperson Rodriguez sought the members opinion on which scoring method would work best: one that allowed more opportunities for points or one based on a tier system. The members focused on the point system.

In determining the best way to score, members discussed (1) the need for the CRC to be more specific with gathering information so that the applicant will know what the CRC is looking for; (2) the giving of an extra point for a first time applicant; (3) the use of the 1 to 5 point system for the best scoring results; (4) the interview process as an opportunity to keep the humanity in the process; (5) the consideration of intersectionality as a value; and (6) the impact that the [grantee's project will have. In considering impact, members discussed the need to gather information while the projects are happening and then

afterwards via one-on-one interviews, QR codes, and other forms of media. This feedback will come from both the grantee and the attendees. The score sheet and application process for the grant program was not finalized via discussion. Therefore, Chairperson Rodriguez asked each member to send their responses to agenda items 1a and 1b to her, which will then be reviewed and a determination made.

2. CRC members discussed the current and different variations of the Pride flag and what the colors represent. Questions centered around whether or not there was a good faith argument on why the flag should be changed. Dr. Walker explained one viewpoint about the changing flag representing the progress and changes with how things have evolved. The purpose of the discussion of the flag was to hear CRC's input and concerns on the changing of the flag.
3. CRC members discussed the upcoming events for which they could share a role in. At least one member will be at each of the upcoming events:
  - a. Day In Our Village – June 4th, 11am – 4pm
  - b. Juneteenth Flag Raising – June 4<sup>th</sup>, 6pm – 8pm
  - c. Juneteenth Cookout – June 18th, 11am – 4pm
  - d. Pride Party – June 24<sup>th</sup>, 11am – 2pm
  - e. July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade – July 4<sup>th</sup>. Line-up at 9:30am, kickoff at 10:00am.  
Staff Cassandra Adediran spoke about the CRC's role with working with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade which was not just marching but supporting by getting acts for the parade, manning the registration table, and helping with the line-up. Chairperson Rodriguez encouraged the CRC members to figure out how to make the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade more equitable.
4. Chairperson Rodriguez brought up the subject matter of Asylum Seekers . CRC members mentioned the current activities that some people and organizations are already doing. Chairperson Rodriguez informed the members that President Scaman has been presented with this concern. Dr. Walker offered that internally the Village has been having conversations [on asylum seekers] and that something will be added to the Village's web page with information on how people can support the effort. Chairperson Rodriguez added that items can be dropped off at Kinfolk Colab. 405 S Euclid Ave.

Motion to adjourn was made by Comm. Puentes and seconded by Comm Quinn. Meeting adjourned at 9:39p.m.