



Human Relations Commission

Minutes

April 11, 2019 6:30 P.M.

Village Hall

3930 N. Murray Avenue, Shorewood, WI 53211

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Members present: Kerri Balliet, Sharveta Parker, Sarah Spencer, Jesse Dercks, Gladys Mitchell-Walthour, and student members Mira Lee Prabhu and Julia Appel

Others present: Assistant Village Manager Tyler Burkart, Trustee Ann McKaig, Trustee Davida Amenta, Natraj Shanker, Shorewood Connects Coordinator Sue Kelley, Lt. Thomas Liebenthal, SRC Coordinator Elizabeth Price

Members not present: McKenzie Edmonds

2. Consider Approval of January 10, 2019 minutes

Ms. Balliet moved to approve the January 10, 2019 minutes. Motion seconded by Ms. Parker. Motion approved by a 5-0 vote.

3. Public Comments

No public comments.

4. Discuss Observations in the Community

Ms. Appel and Ms. Prabhu indicated a letter was sent home to residents due to comments and concerns with a SIS teacher.

5. Staff Liaison Updates

Mr. Burkart informed the Commission that the community survey is now available. The data sub-committee will be analyzing the results once the survey is completed. Ms. Sisson will no longer serve on the Commission and resigned. Members are encouraged to recruit residents in the community to apply for the vacant position on the Commission. There was discussion about incorporating diversity and inclusion training for the Village Board and other officials. The Commission asked for staff to reach out to previous applicants and see if there would be interest in applying again.

6. Discuss ways to collaborate with Shorewood Moving Forward, Elder Services Advisory Board, and other Community Groups

Members from Shorewood Moving Forward and Elder Services Advisory Board were present to discuss their mission, purpose, and potential ways to collaborate with the Commission. Shorewood Moving Forward is currently focusing their efforts on policing and inclusions of students in the schools. The Elder Services Advisory Board (ESAB) is currently working on an Age-Friendly Plan for the Village. ESAB is challenging the Commission to identify ways to address ageism with their priorities.

7. Report from Sub-Committee Groups

This item was incorporated in agenda #8.

8. Discuss Prioritization and Annual Report for Human Relations Commission

The Commission spent some time discussing their accomplishments over the last year and their upcoming priorities. Accomplishments over the past year include:

1. Mission statement
2. Sub-committees formulated
3. Improved relations among members
4. Community input on human relation concerns and issues
5. Begin connections and build cohesion with other community partners
6. Create structure of meetings and agenda
7. Begin review of holiday decorations policy
8. Data subcommittee reviewed community survey and provided recommendations
9. Brainstorm ways for the Police Department to provide data and information to the Commission

Upcoming priorities over the next 12 months for the Commission include:

1. Initiate an event called Diverse Dining – five dinners where there’s a facilitated dinner around diversity, ageism, and cultural exploration.
2. Sponsor “On the Table” event in Shorewood
3. Collaborate with the Police Department to acquire data and information
4. Formulate recommendations toward language for hiring and RFP processes
5. Review data from the community survey, identify correlations, and make recommendations related towards policies, programs and procedures
6. Finalize a holiday decoration policy for the Village
7. Research and develop a code of conduct and ethics policy

9. Future Agenda Topics and Speakers

Mr. Shanker recognized Ms. Prabhu for her award, “Service above Self.” Mr. Dercks added a reminder to include student voting rights to the June agenda.

10. Adjournment

Ms. Spencer moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Ms. Balliet. Motion approved by 5-0 vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tyler Burkart
Assistant Village Manager