

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
CULTURAL AWARENESS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 4, 2023

7:15pm – Regan Room – Village Hall – Also virtually via GoToMeeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathryn McCord called the meeting to order at 7:17pm. Motion was made by Kathryn McCord, seconded by Bonnie Wurster.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 7, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes as read made by Kathryn , seconded by Ximena. Voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed and minutes approved.

III. ROLL CALL

Present

Kathryn McCord, Chair
Ximena Atristain-Bigurra
Susan Cooper
Minerva Milford
Bonnie Wurster

Staff Liaison Patrick Seger
Staff Liaison Cathy Doczekalski

Absent

Alisa Kapusinski – excused
Sandra Lahoz - excused
Arlene Montanez – excused
Jean Stone – excused

Eric Fox – not excused
Demetrius Gibson – not excused
Kevin Wendorf – not excused

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Unity Day – June 3, 2023

The Unity Day program was discussed. The doors will open 11:30 AM and children’s craft and cultural display will start at 11:30 AM. The food will be served at 12:00 PM with the following program lineup:

Welcome from Kathryn and Mayor introduced 12:30 PM
Edizon, Filipino entertainer 12:30 PM to 1 PM
Pat Barch, Speaker, Hoffman Est historian 1:00 PM to 1:30 PM
Groupo Folklorico Quetzal, Mexico, Adelita 1:30 PM to 2 PM
German Hott Productions, Donia 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM
Academy of Irish Music/Kevin 2:30 PM to 3:00 PM

I Radha India Dance Troupe/ Medha 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM
Thistle & Heather/Scottish/ Nancy 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM
Aztec Dance Chicago/Susana 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM

At the end of the program Kathryn will introduce Commission members and thank the audience for attending.

This years' theme will be "Vision and Action Can Change the World".

The menu will consist of American grilled chicken, chips and guacamole, baked mostaccioli, Polish kolaczki, Irish corn beef, Indian samosas, Filipino pans bihon guisado pancet, and German chocolate cake.

Flowers and tablecloths, utensils, hot box, extra chairs will also be ordered for the event.

The Commission will need volunteers to pick up the food the day of the event. Kathryn will ask Eric if he can pick up food from Valli and Parivar grocery store.

Kathryn will ask Schaumburg library and the township to put this event on their websites. Kathryn also said she will ask Barrington Square Townhome Association to market the event as well. Patrick said he will review the Village policy on event promotions.

Minerva will distribute 50 fliers; she will pick up fliers from Village Hall.

Patrick added the Village of Hoffman Estates will do its typical marketing which includes the Citizen newsletter, social media and the Village website.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Hispanic Heritage Fiesta

The date was discussed – either October 14, 2023 or October 21, 2023. Minerva said she could not attend October 14.

No decision on date was made, however the date needs to be selected at the May meeting.

Patrick suggested that the commission have lead time to organize and publicize events; Patrick also recommended that the commission decide on date and program leader during the March meeting.

Kathryn asked if Minerva or Ximena could lead the event. Since they were not sure of the date, they could not commit. The date and leaders will be decided during the May meeting.

Kathryn mentioned that Valli could provide food cheaper than area restaurants. Susan said we should support local restaurants and buy from different places rather than from one place for all the events. Kathryn reiterated Valli would be cheaper.

Susan asked what the budget was. Patrick said \$2,500; Minerva asked why the budget went down from \$3,500 to \$ 2,500. Patrick checked and said it has been \$2,500 historically and an increase may occur next year if the Village approves the Commission's request for increased funding.

Black History Month

The Commission discussed Black History Month and MLK as they are close to each other and it is difficult to plan and do both events. The Commission should discuss whether or not to do both events and pick leadership now.

Minerva said she felt it is difficult to do both. Ximena said it is too close to MLK Day and there is not enough time to plan Black History Month. Kathryn said we could do it in March or have a video (as during Covid). Patrick said the commission could do a Black History Month promotion to create awareness but not an event. Patrick recommended that the commission check with the members not in attendance for their thoughts on this subject. Susan said this year's event was lightly attended and a lot of food was leftover from the event.

Bonnie said that it is important to have an event and to do something tastefully.

Patrick suggested about Black History Month if the commission chose not to do an event to have an essay contest for school children and it was discussed. Minera said it was difficult as we would get minimum teacher participation. Susan said teachers are busy in February with standardized tests and we should not have only an essay contest. Skits, music, artwork could also be invited from students.

This topic was tabled, it will be discussed during the May meeting.

MLK Day – January 15th 2024

Patrick recommends that the commission discuss and select leadership, entertainment, and speakers now; Patrick recalled during the last Cultural Awareness meeting that Jean had mentioned that Pastor Robi seemed unavailable to participate in 2024 event and the Commission should look for other entertainment options.

Kathryn mentioned a skit about MLK and his wife that was done in the past and well-received. Patrick said we could reach out to that group (Kingdom Impact Theater Ministry).

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kathryn and seconded by Bonnie Wurster to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote, all in favor. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

The next meeting of the Cultural Awareness Commission will be Tuesday, May 2, 2023