

VILLAGE OF HOFFMAN ESTATES
CULTURAL AWARENESS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 4, 2025

7:15pm – Regan Conference Room – Village Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathryn McCord called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Present

Kathryn McCord

Jean Stone

Susan Cooper

Bonnie Wurster

Ximena Atristain-Bigurra

Sandra Lahoz

Absent

Arlene Montanez - Excused

Staff Liaison

Patrick Seger

Public Comment

Guest - Renee McMullen – New applicant to the CAC. Renee is very thankful to be included and has been a resident of Hoffman Estates since 1997 and has worked for AT&T for 30 years. She has been involved with the MLK Jr. Breakfast since the beginning. She has served as an AKA and is involved with Links Incorporated and does community service.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from January 8, 2025, Jean made a motion to approve with the amendment of indicating that all of those who were listed as absent as the January meeting was excused. seconded by Xiemna. On a voice vote, the motion passed.

3. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Discussed a potential new member to the CAC but she cannot attend meetings between January through April of each year but will work on all of the events the CAC has all year. Any problems with encouraging her to put in her application? Her name is Mimi Ferlita. No objections heard from the commission.

Kathryn shared the mission statement with the CAC board. Also, that all commission members should promote the opportunity to join the CAC. Jean shared that we should have a recruiting message which is short and to the point regarding what the commission does and accomplishments.

4. STAFF LIASIONS REPORT

None

5. OLD BUSINESS

MLK Breakfast

Susan indicated that we ran out of Orange Juice and we need to order 8 next year.

Kathryn said it was a great event and one of the best ever. Donations at MLK, 47 dry goods 163 can goods, 1 coat 35 hats glove sets. Kathryn also said she sent out thank you letters after the event.

Black History Month

Kathryn indicated she spoke to Hallie to put together a document to collect participants information regarding future events also request participants to sign up if interested in joining the commission. Sandra also suggested that we should put information in the Village Citizen.

Xiemna will not be able to attend as she must work that day. Library is promoting the event along with the Township, other organizations such as schools etc. She passed out 75 flyers. Any opportunity you can about promoting event.

The doors will open at 1:30 – Jean to reach out to Delta’s – AKA’s will be at the event. The commission will be asked to come at 12:30 p.m. to help set up and work the kitchen. Sandra may not attend. Bonnie will attend. Susan will be attending and helping with cookies. Jean will be helping in the Kitchen.

The Regan room will be the designated for the entertainment – Ayodele Drum and Dance – Kathryn will get the tablecloths – Black, Green and Red. Library will be here at 1:30 – Samantha – will be making friendship bracelets.

At 2:00 p.m. the program will begin, and attendees will be asked to enjoy the tastes of BHM. Demetrius will be our MC, however, needs to be confirmed.

Cookies – with no nuts. 5 trays of 36 cookies equaling 180 cookies. 2 trays of Chocolate Chips, 1 brownie, 1 oatmeal and 1 sugar.

Chicken – 192 pieces – 2 containers of potato salad, 1 coleslaw and 1 macaroni. Jean wants to get bigger and stronger plates. Includes a total of 96 and 50 extra Hawaiian rolls that Patrick will pick up in advance.

Patrick to pick up large and dessert plates, plasticware, pop, water, juice from Sam’s Club.

The speaker April Wells is planned to present for our event. Xiemna made a motion and seconded by Kathryn with all in favor. She will receive a stipend of \$200.

6. NEW BUSINESS

Kathryn to tentatively lead the MLK breakfast for next year 2026.

Unity Day – Saturday, May 31st

The doors will open at 11:30 and commission members will be asked to be at the event at 10:00 a.m. Susan and Renee will not be available. Kathryn has provided some suggestions for this year's event. A new entertainment – Bollywood dancers, Rebecca McCarthy Irish dance music, Adelita Mexican dancers, Martin Lopez Academy – Violin players from kids. (Music from around the world) Aztec Chicago dancers, and Edizon.

Food for the event: Guacamole and Chips, Fried Rice no eggs, Baked Mostaccioli, Samosa, pork on a stick, Polish kolaczki (fruit), Lecha cake (3 milks).

Jean had mentioned that we need to make sure the pork on a stick is hot when it is picked up. Greek Chicken will ask that they cut in half.

The commission did not disagree with the proposed entertainment and menu.

Entertainers will be offered a stipend of \$200.00

Ximena felt that the length of the acts are too long. Proposed 6 groups entertaining for 20 minutes.

Citizen Article for Unity Day

The Commission did not discuss the article about the Unity Day event.

7. COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

None

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Bonnie to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Sandra. Voice vote: all in favor. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

The next meeting of the Cultural Awareness Commission will be on Tuesday, March 4, 2025