

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

7:15pm – Conference Room – Village Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kathryn McCord called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Susan Cooper Sandra Lahoz Kathryn McCord Renee McMullen Arlene Montanez Jean Stone	Ximena Atristain-Bigurra - excused Bonnie Wurster - excused
Staff Liaison – Patrick Seger Staff Liaison – Cathy Doczekalski	

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from February 4th, 2025

The minutes from February 4th, 2025, were approved with one correction noted by Renee: Renee has been a resident of Hoffman Estates since 1997, not 1977 as stated in the minutes (page 1). Patrick said the date 1977 was a mistake that would be corrected to 1997.

Kathryn made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction and Jean seconded. Voice vote: all in favor.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

V. OLD BUSINESS

Unity Day Follow Up

Kathryn said we should publicize Unity Day through Daily Herald, Citizen, Chamber of Commerce and friends & family. Patrick said the Citizen notice was ready and the flyer for Unity Day would be distributed at the April meeting.

Kathryn said Unity Day entertainment would cost \$200 each.

Kathryn also discussed Unity Day food as follows:

- Guacamole from Valli will likely go up in price due to tariffs. Commission members accepted that.
- Chinese fried rice from Fortune House would be \$121. Patrick said to pick a Chinese restaurant in Hoffman Estates, but Commissioners could not think of a Hoffman Chinese restaurant with tasty fried rice and good prices.
- Polish kolaczki would be \$60.
- Tres Leche cake from Estrella would be \$108 while last year's German Chocolate cake was \$ 65. Kathryn asked if we want fresh fruit as a layer or as a topping with the cake. Commissioners did not want fruit.
- Ukrainian cabbage roll was mentioned as not popular with last year's Unity Day guests. Ukrainian cabbage rolls will be replaced by vegetarian spring rolls. Kathryn will ask Fortune House for vegetarian spring rolls. Patrick mentioned that about 60 % of Unity Day guests ask for only vegetarian food.
- Greek Chicken from QP. Kathryn will ask QP restaurant to cut 8 chickens into 10 pieces each (cut chicken breasts into half). Total 80 pieces.
- Pork on a stick from Umart will cost \$3 each; 80 pieces. Kathy said she had told Umart that the pork on a stick had to be piping hot when collected at 11AM.
- Samosas – 100 small – complimentary from owner of Parivar.

Patrick asked about the total number of hot foods since the kitchen can keep only four full items hot. Kathryn said she will ask for samosas and fried rice to be packed in half-size pans; so, five hot foods can be kept hot in the kitchen.

Sororities – AKAs will help, and Jean will ask Deltas if they can help.

Library-Kathryn will contact the library for a craft.

Doors open at 11:30 AM, food served at noon. Commissioners should arrive at 10:30 AM to set up.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Tax Exemption Certificate** – the Updated Tax Exemption certificate was distributed to Commissioners.

- b. **Black History Month Debrief**

Patrick said the total number of attendees was officially 85, (not including entertainers); commissioners mentioned that more may have attended but not signed the sheet.

Patrick also said three people had indicated they were receptive to being contacted by the Commission to be invited to our events. Kathryn said she has one more person receptive to being contacted. Hallie will send these four people fliers about our events.

Food

- o Salads. Since coleslaw was not so popular, cut coleslaw next time to have only two salads – potato salad and macaroni salad.

- Coffee and tea. Cut coffee and tea next time as it is a lunch event. Keep juice, pop and water.
- Chicken - Commissioners discussed reducing chicken for next year. Kathryn said she would order 96 and 48 pieces of fried chicken next time.

Centerpieces

- Bonnie had brought centerpieces to Black History without prior input from the Commission. Patrick asked if Commissioners are comfortable with keeping the centerpieces for future use and reimbursing Bonnie. Commissioners voted to keep the centerpieces for future use and to reimburse Bonnie. Kathryn made the motion and Jean seconded. Voice vote: all in favor.
- Patrick mentioned that there is an order of things in place, and everyone should follow the order; commissioners should discuss and approve matters prior to making changes and purchases.

c. **Hispanic Heritage Day**

Ximena and Sandra will lead.

October 11th and 18th were mentioned as possible dates. Ximena texted Arlene with her choice of October 11th. Patrick will check to see if the room is available on October 11th.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Kathryn and seconded by Renee to adjourn the meeting. Voice vote: all in favor. Motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Minutes submitted by Susan Cooper on March 5th, 2025

The next meeting of the Cultural Awareness Commission will be on Tuesday, April 1st, 2025.