

MINUTES
CITY OF WOODSTOCK
CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AWARENESS COMMISSION
October 3, 2016
City Council Chambers

A Regular Meeting of the City of Woodstock Cultural and Social Awareness Commission was called to order at 4:35PM by Chairperson Laura Crain on Monday, October 3, 2016 in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

A roll call was taken.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: William Donato, John Hudson, Jose Rivera, and Chairperson Laura Crain.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Ivy Sagrado

STAFF PRESENT: Human Resources Director/Staff Liaison Deb Schober

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk Cindy Smiley

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment forthcoming.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by W. Donato, second by J. Rivera, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2016 meeting of the Cultural and Social Awareness Commission as presented.

Ayes: W. Donato, J. Hudson, J. Rivera, and Chairperson L. Crain. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. Absentees: I. Sagrado. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Sister Cities

J. Rivera stated that Guadalupe has a new Mayor and a new Governor. He noted that Mayor Sager, Mr. Rivera, and the Governor recently joined in a conference call. Mr. Rivera stated that he will soon be receiving some dates for a visit to Zacatecas for the District 200 Superintendent, the President of Aurora University, and Mayor Sager anticipated for some time in the next few months. He also noted the Mayor of Guadalupe would like to come here this year.

Old Firehouse Assistance Center Initiative

Chairwoman Crain stated the day center is now re-established back in the Old Firehouse and is looking for volunteers. Anyone interested should contact Ms. Crain. She noted there is still a good response to services being offered at that location.

A short discussion ensued about the facility concerning renovations and making the building ADA compliant. It was noted that making it into a 5-day per week facility is being considered but that other locations would have to be looked at for an overnight facility due to the need for sprinkling which is cost prohibitive. It was noted that the Housing Authority is operating the Old Firehouse Assistance Center with the City serving as landlord.

A general discussion ensued regarding PADS with J. Hudson noting there is still a need for a Saturday overnight center. It was noted that Mayor Sager may wish to reconvene the consortium at some point.

OPR Training

Chairperson Crain noted the first training was scheduled for February but no one attended. She stated there is another training scheduled for next week with one person signed up thus far. Discussion followed of this program. It was noted that another version is offered to schools on November 8th. It was opined that there is not much advertising of this program and perhaps more people would sign up if they were aware of it.

New Americans Initiative

Chairperson Crain stated there are locations in Chicago that are being considered, noting that people from McHenry County have been sent there for assistance. She stated the problem is transportation and noted she is seeking a funding source to pay for this. She noted, however, at this time there is no indication that this will work out in the near future. Ms. Crain stated the Chicago locations are getting so many people of their own they are not sure they are comfortable with Woodstock advertising this program and encouraging people to go to those locations. In response to a question concerning bringing the program here, Ms. Crain stated she does not believe there is manpower available at this time and she has found no lawyers who can participate now.

Other Discussion

Chairperson Crain informed the Commission that there is a conference scheduled in the County for October 31 addressing the needs of the LGBTQ community. She urged anyone interested to contact her for more information.

2017 Meeting Dates

Following a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Commission that the following dates be scheduled for 2017 with all meetings to begin at 5:30PM:

Monday, January 9, 2017

Monday, April 3, 2017

Monday, July 10, 2017

Monday, October 2, 2016

ADJOURN

Motion by J. Rivera, second by J. Hudson, to adjourn this meeting of the Cultural and Social Awareness Commission to the next regularly-scheduled meeting on Monday, January 9, 2017, at 5:30PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Ayes: W. Donato, J. Hudson, J. Rivera, and Chairperson L. Crain. Nays: none. Abstentions: none. Absentees: I. Sagrado. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:54PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Smiley
City Clerk