



# COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

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WHEATON CITY HALL, 303 W WESLEY STREET, WHEATON, ILLINOIS 60187

## Community Relations Commission Meeting

Wednesday, July 7, 2021

7:00 – 8:30 pm

Virtual Meeting

- I. Call to Order 7:15 pm.
- II. Welcome everyone.
- III. Roll Call – **Present:** Colleen Attwell, Erica Nelson, Larniecia Smith, Jennifer Sever, Rachel Bautista, Laura Peccarelli, Kay Frederick, Saleha Jawaid, Meg Beasley and Tony Asta. **Absent:** Katie Sivak and Krista Selvey.
  - o Public Attendees: Dilli Phuyal
- IV. Approval of Minutes – Tony made a motion to approve June 2021 minutes with discussed changes. Erica seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.
- V. Old Business
  - o Committee Updates –
    - PRIDE Month Recap (Rachel) – 8 posts were shared across City channels. Cross-promotion with Wheaton Public Library, CUSD, Chamber of Commerce. Lots of positive conversation and a peaceful protest at City Hall.
    - Wheaton Plaza del Zocalo Recap (Erica/Laura) – Erica and Laura attended to serve at pet parade judges. Due to bad weather, only one dog in parade. They were able to network with other event attendees.
    - Festival of Cultures (Tony) – Plans are moving forward for Festival on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Park. Funkadesi and an Irish band have been secured as well Aztec dancers. Katie secured \$3,000 in sponsorship from First Trust Portfolios. We anticipate support from Fine & Cultural Arts, DWA, Chamber of Commerce and will ask Ivy as well. We are also seeking a grant for a community art project. Tony and Erica are working on logistics – photographer, bingo cards, cultural groups, marketplace, etc.
    - Make a Difference Day/Wheaton 365 (Larniecia) – Larniecia has reached out to Wheaton Forestry Division to discuss Rake-Up events in Adams Park, Lincoln Marsh and the sensory park. Also working on yard signs. Meg is helping with wording for the annual proclamation.
    - Veteran acknowledgement and support (Erica) – Field of Honor was held over Fourth of July holiday at Seven Gable Park. 2000 flags. Our commission sponsored a flag. Erica will continue to rethink strategy regarding veterans. Local organizations seem self-sufficient, so we may just promote their initiatives.
- VI. New Business –
  - o Meeting structure – Once the governor’s order expires, the City will not offer virtual meetings. August meeting will probably be in person at City Hall.

- New program - Rachel is looking into a potential new partnership with Dupage NAACP and Wheaton history. More to come on this in coming months.
  - Public Comment – Dilli Phuyal from Dupage Mini Mart in Wheaton. Interested in getting involved in Festival of Cultures. Tony will introduce to Vickie at Chamber of Commerce.
- VII. Adjournment – 8:24 pm. Tony motioned to adjourn, Colleen seconded the motion. All members approved the motion.
- VIII. Next meeting: Wednesday, August 4, 2021.