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DRAFT
Minutes of a Meeting of the
Celebration of Cultures Subcommittee of the
Community Relations Commission
Northbrook, IL
Thursday, March 14, 2019
7:00 p.m.

9 Present: Co-Chair Christine Beeftink, Co-Chair Helena Osorio, Members Aleida
10 Chavez, Emmeline Hazaray and Sujin Song.

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12 Others: Erik Jensen, Staff Liaison.

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14 **Welcome:**

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16 The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Shermer Study at Village Hall.

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18 **Hear from the Audience:**

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20 There was no audience.

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22 **Planning for the 2019 Event:**

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24 Co-Chair Beeftink welcomed everyone in attendance. She stated that Co-Chair Osorio, Liaison
25 Jensen and she had discussed a few potential changes and were seeking the Subcommittee's
26 feedback.

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28 Co-Chair Beeftink stated she first wanted to discuss the event date and time. She briefly
29 overviewed that the event was looking to be scheduled to the fall and discussed the concept of
30 a harvest festival theme. She stated the two dates currently being explored were Saturday,
31 November 2 and Sunday, November 3.

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33 Co-Chair Osorio stated the Co-Chairs has also discussed the concept of a more family-friendly
34 event versus a more adult-oriented event with alcohol potentially being served.

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36 Member Hazaray stated that since families already feel comfortable coming to the event, it
37 would be better to keep it focused on families.

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39 After a discussion, the group agreed to hold the event on Sunday, November 3 from 2 to 4 p.m.
40 and keep it as a family-oriented event.

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42 Member Chavez joined the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

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44 Co-Chair Beeftink noted that using the YMCA would mean that the layout for the event would be
45 the same as in prior years.

46
47 Co-Chair Beeftink asked how the harvest festival may be implemented.

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49 Member Hazaray discussed Diwali and stated it is the traditional Festival of Lights in India
50 celebrated around the same time of year. She briefly overviewed how it could be incorporated.
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52 Member Song discussed Korea Thanksgiving and how it could be incorporated.

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54 Co-Chair Osorio and Member Chavez discussed options for Dia de los Muertos.

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56 A discussion followed on ways to combine these into one event. Co-Chair Osorio suggested a
57 "Festival of Colors" with the potential to dim the gym area and light it with the traditional lights for
58 each celebration. The group agreed to further explore the idea. Co-Chair Osorio stated she
59 would create a Pinterest board for the group to share ideas.

60

61 A brief conversation followed on how to recruit new groups. Ultimately, the group agreed to try
62 and find contacts in Northbrook and, if a contact is unable to be found, to reach out to the
63 embassies in Chicago.

64

65 Co-Chair Beeftink asked how the light concept could be done in the gym.

66

67 Liaison Jensen stated he would reach out to the YMCA. He also suggested potentially
68 purchasing some of the supplies ahead of time as they could be reused for Celebration of
69 Cultures and other events. He stated that he still had many of Co-Chair Osorio's supplies from
70 previous Dia de los Muertos displays.

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72 The group briefly discussed and agreed to seek an appropriation for the current fiscal year to
73 purchase reusable supplies for the event.

74

75 Co-Chair Osorio asked when the Subcommittee should meet again. Liaison Jensen suggested
76 Monday, April 29 to approve any purchases with the money appropriated by the CRC.

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78 **Adjournment:**

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80 A motion was made by Member Hazaray, seconded by Member Chavez, to adjourn the
81 meeting. On a voice vote, all aye.

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83 The meeting closed at 7:53 p.m.

84

85 Respectfully submitted,

86

87

88

89 Erik Jensen

90 Staff Liaison