

APPROVED
Minutes of a Regular Remote Access of the
Community Relations Commission
Northbrook, IL
Thursday, April 1, 2021

Present: Chairman Bruce Doughty; Commissioners Christine Beeftink, Elliot Bruckman, Emmeline Hazaray, John Martin, Sarah Kroeschell & Patti Vile

Absent: Commissioners Helena Osorio, & Grace Seo

Representatives: Ron Mantegna

Guests: Joy Stuart/Northbrook Park District
Tracy Gossage/Northbrook Public Library

Others: Recording Secretary, Gale Cerabona

Welcome

Chairman Doughty welcomed everyone at 7:03 p.m. He advised Liaison Madeline Farrell would not be present this evening due to the Village vaccination event.

Hear from the Audience

Ms. Stuart shared the following from the Park District:

- Spring in-person programs are taking place
- the Senior Center at Village Green Park reopened with bingo, education discussions, etc.
- construction is happening
- the Summer Guide will be out the first week of May; events are taking place
- contact Ms. Stuart if anyone is interested in a tour of the Techny Prairie Activity Center/TPAC

Representative Mantegna shared he walked the trail and asked if new gravel is ever placed. Ms. Stuart advised over time the gravel does get replaced.

Commissioner Beeftink thanked the Park District team for all it does for the community.

Ms. Gossage noted the following from the Library:

- the novel *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett was selected for *One Book, One Northbrook* which will occur through the month of October. The author visit is on October 19th, 2021.
- the Library is open along with curbside pick-up. Self-checkout is also available.
- lobby remodeling will be completed in June

Commissioner Vile asked what the new lobby will look like. Ms. Gossage said a new collection would be available. The Staff Lounge will also be renovated.

Commissioner Beftink said the *Celebration of Cultures* will be in November and asks that the Library partner. She will invite Ms. Gossage to future committee meetings.

48 Commissioner Hazaray arrived at 7:10 p.m.
49

50 **Community Presentation**

51 Chairman Doughty advised there is no presentation tonight.
52

53 **Review & Approval of February 4, 2021, CRC Regular Meeting Minutes**

54 Revisions are:

- 55 • Line 25 replace Library with *Park District*
- 56 • Line 106 add to end of first sentence *to conduct a vaccine clinic*
- 57 • Line 121 replace ... for food drive deposits with ... *to support local food pantries*
- 58 • Line 124 indicate 20% in-person & 80% remote
- 59 • Line 133 specify 2021
- 60 • Line 163 reword to say *there has been conflict among different races*

61 A motion was made by Commissioner Martin, seconded by Commissioner Bruckman, to approve the
62 February 4, 2021, CRC regular meeting minutes as amended. On a roll call vote, the motion passed
63 unanimously.
64

65 **Update on Activities**

66 1. A Celebration of Cultures
67

68 Commissioner Beeftink advised a virtual meeting occurred with the subcommittee. She noted a
69 multi-day virtual event is slated for November 4, 2021, to include cooking demos, dance,
70 concerts, etc. Representative Lonoff and RAIN may partner to promote understanding. In the
71 first or second weekend of November, trivia could take place with sessions over 3-4 days (using
72 Eventbrite, etc.). The next meeting will be in April. Staff at the Library and YMCA are being asked
73 to participate. Volunteers from the CRC are requested.
74

75 Chairman Doughty said the creativity is fantastic. He thanked Commissioner Beeftink and her
76 team for their efforts.
77

78 2. Northbrook Cares
79

80 Chairman Doughty advised a meeting took place and 25 additional entities offering support
81 would be placed on the web site; there will soon be a total of 40.
82

83 He stated the idea to support seniors is being cultivated while working with senior center staff,
84 etc. At GBN, there is interest for junior and senior high-school students to participate. A pilot
85 program will likely occur in the fall. Commissioner Vile noted a senior-to-senior program would
86 be enriching to all involved. Chairman Doughty agrees this would expand the CRC's services in
87 the City.
88

89 Commissioner Bruckman thanked Commissioner Vile for initiating this idea. Representative
90 Mantegna also thanked Commissioner Vile for this initiative. He suggested Zoom meetings and
91 opportunities beyond the telephone.
92

93 3. Flamingo Fridays

94
95 Chairman Doughty asked Commissioners Bruckman and Kroeschell to think about these events.
96 Commissioner Bruckman will reach out to Commissioner Kroeschell.
97

98 **News from Schools**

99 Commissioners Martin and Beeftink shared information on St. Norbert's:

100 • a new principal is being sought
101 • there was a positive Covid case in one classroom before Spring break

102
103 Commissioner Beeftink shared information about Niles North:

104 • students are adhering to guidelines and happy to be back
105 • graduation options are being planned (virtual and in-person)

106
107 Chairman Doughty shared the following from District 225:

108 • 55%-60% of students have returned to school
109 • Staff has been vaccinated
110 • Students are adhering to guidelines
111 • Sports have begun (football, etc.)
112 • Math team came in second in the world at a competition at Princeton
113 • the Variety Shows via Zoom were incredibly creative. He commended Commissioner Bruckman,
114 and noted this is highlighted on the web site.

115
116 **News from Northbrook Clergy Association**

117 There was no meeting to report.

118
119 **Old Business**

120 Chairman Doughty reminded of the award being given to the CRC from the Family Center on April 17,
121 2021. He noted a 6-minute video including him receiving the award is being developed. All of the CRC's
122 efforts make a difference.

123
124 Commissioner Bruckman thanked Chairman Doughty as it takes leadership and unity. Everyone
125 concurred.

126
127 Commissioner Kroeschell arrived at 7:35 p.m.

128
129 **New Business**

130 There was no New Business.

131
132 **Eyes & Ears on the Street**

133 Representative Mantegna advised, regarding Covid vaccinations, a squad of the Village Church assisted
134 250 people receive appointments for vaccinations. He noted the Village and Liaison Farrell assisted. If
135 anyone knows of someone who needs a vaccination, please let Representative Mantegna know. The
136 Village reported approximately 1,650 vaccinations took place today.

137
138 Chairman Doughty thanked Representative Mantegna.

139
140 **Next Meeting**

141 The next CRC meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2021. Chairman Doughty asked that it be changed to May
142 13, 2021.

143
144 Commissioner Kroeschell moved, seconded by Commissioner Martin, to cancel the CRC meeting on May
145 6. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

146
147 Commissioner Kroeschell moved, seconded by Commissioner Vile, to reschedule the CRC meeting to
148 May 13, 2021. On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

149

150 **Adjournment**

151 Chairman Doughty advised everyone that former Liaison Erik Jensen just welcomed a new baby.

152

153 A brief discussion took place with Commissioners Bruckman and Kroeschell regarding Flamingo Fridays.

154

155 Commissioner Kroeschell moved, seconded by Commissioner Vile, to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m.
156 On a voice vote, the motion passed unanimously.

157

158 Respectfully submitted,

159

160

161 Gale Cerabona

162 Recording Secretary