

**Minutes of a Meeting of the
Community Relations Commission
Northbrook, IL
Thursday, April 4, 2019**

Present: Chairman Bruce Doughty, Commissioners Christine Beeftink, Elliot Bruckman, Emmeline Hazaray, Sarah Kroeschell, Helena Osorio & Patti Vile.

Absent: Commissioners John Martin & Grace Seo.

Representatives: Colette Dim & Ron Mantegna

Guests: Dale Duda – Northbrook Farmers Market; Joy Stuart – Northbrook Park District

Others: Staff Liaison Erik Jensen & Recording Secretary Gale Cerabona

Welcome

Chairman Doughty called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. in the Shermer Study at Village Hall.

Hear from the Audience

Ms. Stuart shared the following updates from the Northbrook Park District:

- The annual Earth & Arbor Day event will be held on Saturday, April 13.
- The Spring Bunny event will be held on Sunday, April 14.
- Senior Week will be held during the week of April 22 through April 26.
- The 50th annual Northbrook on Ice will be held May 10 through May 12.
- The Fishing Derby is coming up.

Ms. Duda asked if Sportsman's Golf Course would be open this year. Ms. Stuart shared the Golf Course is open all season.

Review & Approval of March 7, 2019, CRC Regular Meeting Minutes

Revisions were noted as follows:

- Line 8 remove John Martin and place in Line 10
- Line 173 after is, add *a musical*,
- Line 216 alter the word with to *exploiting*

A motion was made by Commissioner Kroeschell, seconded by Commissioner Bruckman, to approve the March 7, 2019 CRC meeting minutes as amended. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

It was noted the next two agenda items would be switched.

Community Presentation

Chairman Doughty introduced Ms. Duda, recapped her time and contributions serving as a CRC Commissioner and stated she would be discussing the Northbrook Farmer's Market.

Ms. Duda handed out Farmer's Market bookmarks and discussed the mission of the Farmer's Market. She stated the upcoming season would be the Market's 11th year. She discussed some of the Farmer's

Market special programs including its food stamp and food gleaning/donation programs. She stated the Market has donated over 60,000 pounds of food since its inception.

Ms. Duda stated that the Market would be holding a program on Monday, April 8 called “Stories from the Farm” and discussed the program.

Representative Mantegna asked if Ms. Duda would provide insight about the recipients of the Food Stamp Program. Ms. Duda stated users are:

- immigrant elderly people
- disabled people
- working families in the local area

Chairman Doughty stated the Market’s history of accomplishments is very impressive and thanked Ms. Duda for coming.

Ms. Duda departed the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Village Update

Liaison Jensen stated the upcoming closure of Dundee Road at Lee Road would begin on April 15.

Liaison Jensen stated that the Village Board would be considering and approval of the budget for Fiscal Year 2019/20 (May 1, 2019 through April 30, 2020) at its Tuesday, April 9 meeting. He stated that the CRC’s budget for the year would be \$8,000.

Liaison Jensen noted Commissioner Kroeschell was participating in the Citizens Police Academy and briefly discussed the program. Commissioner Kroeschell shared her experiences so far.

Representative Mantegna stated that the Village website was very helpful and discussed a recent experience he had.

Update on Activities

1. Northbrook Cares

Chairman Doughty advised there was a meeting on March 14. The next one meeting would be held on May 1. He noted they are continuing to:

- find ways to connect with youth, agencies
- enhance the project website
- review Text-A-Tip
- potentially connect with Hunger Resource Network.

2. Celebration of Cultures

Commissioner Beeftink stated the Subcommittee recently met, and the next meeting would be held on April 29.

Commissioner Beeftink stated the event is scheduled for November 3, 2019, for two hours in the afternoon and that a harvest festival theme is being explored.

Liaison Jensen advised that the YMCA was able to host again this year, and Commissioner Osorio discussed the "Festival of Colors" concept.

Commissioner Beeftink stated there was a request before the CRC to approve the use of \$1,000 from the current fiscal year budget (Fiscal Year 2018/19) to purchase reusable supplies for the event.

Commissioner Bruckman asked what the historical cost of the event has been.

Liaison Jensen explained that it has typically been \$3,500 to \$4,500 per year and stated that the event had always come in under budget.

Commissioner Osorio moved, seconded by Representative Dim, to approve the Celebration of Cultures Subcommittee request for \$1,000 to be spent during Fiscal Year 2018/19 to purchase reusable supplies. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Doughty thanked the Subcommittee for its planning to date.

3. Welcome to Northbrook/Flamingo Fridays

Commissioner Bruckman overviewed the event details, including the fact that the Subcommittee was moving forward with sending out the event postcards and purchasing reusable bags for the event. He explained that donations would be accepted for the Northfield Food Pantry.

Commissioner Bruckman asked anyone to join the next meeting on May 9 at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall, which would include gluing together the flamingoes.

Commissioner Kroeschell stated a CRC table would be present on May 17 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. She asked that CRC members participate at the table.

4. One Community, One Book

Commissioner Beeftink stated that the planning group is brainstorming for the kick-off and seeking South African natives who are residents of Northbrook to participate. She asked the Commission for any sources/contacts. Commissioner Osorio and Representative Mantegna shared potential contacts.

News from Schools

Commissioner Kroeschell shared that the River Trails District's referendum on facilities did not pass.

Commissioner Beeftink shared that Niles North was preparing for graduation.

Chairman Doughty shared the following from District 225:

- The new District 225 Superintendent, Dr. Charles Johns, officially begins on July 1 but has been visiting frequently and making contacts.

- Spartans Connect had a many presentations on March 13
- The musical play, Mamma Mia, will be held in May.

News from Northbrook Clergy Association

Liaison Jensen noted the following information was sent by Representative Hansen:

- The Clergy Association sent letters and prayers to the Muslim community following the mosque tragedy in Christchurch, New Zealand.
- A new Love Your Neighbor (Pastor Swap) program will take place in the Fall.
- Clergy Association would like to bring back the Clergy Luncheon in December; Chairman Doughty explained the event to those who had not previously attended.

Old Business

Commissioner Hazaray stated the Youth Commission will host a Mindfulness workshop at the Northbrook Public Library in the auditorium on April 7 from 2 p.m.-4 p.m. and explained the event.

Chairman Doughty stated that the subject was very timely.

New Business

Representative Dim shared the following information:

- Hunger Resource Network will host its Community Outreach Day on April 6 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Sunset Foods.
- The Community Garden has been started and plots are available. Two plots are grown for the Food Pantry.

Commissioner Bruckman stated he wishes to recognize Representatives Hansen & Stoddard for their efforts with the CRC and Welcome to Northbrook/Flamingo Fridays.

Eyes & Ears on the Street

- Representative Mantegna stated Village Presbyterian Church will host the North Shore Chamber Music Festival on June 12-15
- Commissioner Bruckman recognized Commissioner Kroeschell for taking the Northbrook Citizens' Police Academy course. He noted applicants are requested in the newspaper, and he hopes this will be promoted at Flamingo Fridays.

A brief conversation was held regarding the Coffee with the Cop program.

- Liaisen Jensen stated Representative Thompson shared that Northbrook Community Choir will host a Spring Concert on April 29 at 7 p.m. at the library auditorium.

Next Meeting

The next CRC meeting is on May 2, 2019. Liaisen Jensen advised the library is undergoing renovations.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Bruckman, seconded by Commissioner Osario, to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m. On a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Gale Cerabona
Recording Secretary