

Lincolnwood Human Relations Commission Meeting
Monday, October 14, 2013
7:00 PM Lincolnwood Council Chambers

- I. **Roll Call:** Present: Martina Keller, Anna Pawlowski, Anjum Ali, Paul Kramer, Rebecca Kohn and Rita Eng. Not Present: Jean Ikezoe Halevi (Excused), Mary Koleff-May (Excused), Stacy Katsibaros (Excused). Liaisons: Officer Sandy Martin. Guests: Sgt. Mark Weidner, Julie Anne Nitz-Weiss of the Lincolnwood Library.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the September meeting were approved with the following change: In item VIII change the last sentence to “Permission will be sought from Niles Township for the link.”
- III. **Report on Expenditures & Reimbursements:** Jean’s reimbursement is the only change to the balance. Rita submitted a receipt for the popcorn machine rental in July.
- IV. **Urban Land Institute Event:** Martina attended the small group interview. She was the only Lincolnwood resident in her group. In her opinion, the bankers and real estate developers in the group did not know much about Lincolnwood. Rebecca, Jean, Rita and Anna attended the meeting in the evening session. Given that there is no room on Devon to expand the sidewalk or roadway and given that they do not plan to tear down and rebuild the businesses, Rebecca did not understand how this focus group process will prove useful.
- V. **Diversity Month Flag Display:** Mark, Martina and Anjum met to inspect each flag. 1) They recommended retiring the Yugoslavian flag and the old version of the Polish flag. 2) Mark compiled a list of flags, poles and brackets that need replacing (amounting to \$1304) and another list of items that will not last longer than another year (costing \$259). He said that this list took into account the flags we purchased at the end of the last fiscal year. The list was lengthy due to a storm that came though during this year’s display. 3) We discussed whether or not we should purchase these items. Julie Anne suggested that we go back to the original model for flag purchasing which was to buy a particular flag if a donor sponsored it. Mark explained that the number of donations is usually very small and so, in recent years, representative flags have been purchased by us. He said that the village officials seem to like the impact of having many diverse flags so they would probably approve of this type of expenditure. 4) It was decided that first we would advertise widely that we are seeking donors to replace flags and to specify the countries to inspire donors from those backgrounds. Paul agreed to write a press release. Martina will talk to Jean about submitting the release to *Connections*, channel 6, the Chamber of Commerce and the local paper. We will wait to purchase the new flags. 5) The commissioners then discussed which Vietnamese flag we should fly; we have both the official country flag and another version was donated recently. The village received feedback that the official flag of the country, which is currently the North Korean flag, is disliked by many Lincolnwood residents of South Korean descent. After some discussion, a motioned to fly both flags was presented and passed unanimously.
- VI. **HRC Materials Distribution:** Martina reported that, though she had scheduled and prepared to attend the Todd Hall event to pass out our brochures, she never received the brochures. This also forced her to decline other recent opportunities to reach out to the school parents. It

was decided that the brochures would be updated and reprinted by the Police Department (100-300 count). Martina will contact Mary to get the corrected brochure to the PD.

- VII. October Library Display:** Jean brought materials over and Martina and Anjum set up the Library display case with Hats/Headwear from around the world. HRC brochures will be kept at the front desk in case anyone asks about our organization. Julie Anne said the display was “lovely” and that a patron observing the setup was impressed with the team work and the diversity of the team who was setting it up.
- VIII. Old Business:** 1) Martina showed us a thank you letter sent to us by the Niles Food Pantry. She will forward it to the Trustees and Carrie Dick. 2) Jean sent word that the Misericordia CILA Open House has been reset for a March date rather than Fall. 3) Julie Anne updated us on the Library’s Scavenger Hunt idea. Tentative dates are between April 25 and May, 2014. Kick off will be with the Poetry Open Mike event. Teams can play together. Some tasks will be like a passport around the village and others will be scavenger hunt-like. Lincolnwood businesses will be invited to participate. The goals are to have residents take a closer look at their village, to enjoy a fun activity together and to bring the village closer together. HRC can support them in planning and suggest ideas for tasks.
- IX. New Business:** Mark thanked the HRC for their letter to him.
- X. Public Questions or Comments:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Next meeting: Nov. 11, 2013 at 7:00 pm in the Village Hall Chambers.

Minutes Prepared by A. Ali