



VILLAGE OF GLENCOE

675 Village Court, Glencoe, Illinois 60022
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Virtual Meeting Information

As the Village of Glencoe and its partner agencies continue to follow social distancing requirements and Governor Pritzker's *Restore Illinois* Plan, the **July 8 Community Relations Forum** meeting will be held virtually via telephone and video conference (individuals may participate either by telephone or by video conference). Individuals may call the following to participate in the meeting:

By Telephone:

Phone Number: (312) 626-6799
Webinar ID: 966 2692 4093

By Zoom Video Conference:

Zoom video conference link: [Click here](#)

Video conference participants using a computer will be prompted to install the Zoom client; participants using smart phones or tablets must download the Zoom app from their app store.

Public Comment Submittal Options

Option 1: Submit Comments by E-Mail Prior to Meeting

Public comments can be submitted in advance of the meeting by e-mail to glencoemeeting@villageofglencoe.org. Public comments received by 4 p.m. or one hour before the start of the Village Board meeting will be read during the Village Board meeting under Public Comment. Any comments received during the meeting may be read at the end of the meeting.

All e-mails received will be acknowledged. Public comment is limited to 400 words or less. E-mailed public comments should contain the following:

- The Subject Line of the e-mail should include the following text: "July 8 Community Relations Forum Meeting Public Comment"
- Name of person submitting comment (address can be provided, but is not required)
- Organization or agency person is submitting comments on behalf of, if applicable
- Topic or agenda item number of interest, or indicate if the public comment is on a matter not listed on the Village Board meeting agenda

Option 2: Submit Comments by Phone Prior to Meeting

Individuals without access to e-mail may submit their comments through a voice message by calling (847) 461-1100. Verbal public comments will be read aloud during the meeting and will be limited to three minutes.



AGENDA
VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
GLENCOE COMMUNITY RELATIONS FORUM
MEETING

Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, July 8, 2020 – 5 p.m.

- 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
- 2. APPROVAL OF JUNE 25, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT (ON TOPICS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA)**
- 4. DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES ON RACISM, SOCIAL EQUITY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING**
- 5. OTHER BUSINESS**
- 6. ADJOURN**

The Village of Glencoe is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are requested to contact the Village of Glencoe at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting at (847) 835-4114, or the Illinois Relay Center at (800) 526-0844, to allow the Village of Glencoe to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.



DRAFT
MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
GLENCOE COMMUNITY RELATIONS FORUM

Virtual Meeting
June 25, 2020 – 6 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Chair Clark explained the basis for conducting a virtual public meeting in compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

The meeting began at 6:33 p.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Community Relations Forum		
Dipti Clark	Chair	Present
Martin Elisco	Member	Present
Margot Flanagan	Member	Present
Rev. Dwayne Gary	Member	Joined at 6:57 p.m.
Gary Ruben	Member	Present
Maureen Valvassori	Member	Present
Robert Young	Member	Present
Village Staff		
Phil Kiraly	Village Manager	Present
Cary Lewandowski	Public Safety Director	Present
Sharon Tanner	Assistant Village Manager	Present

II. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 16, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Member Elisco made a motion, seconded by Member Ruben to approve the meeting minutes of January 16, 2019. The motion was approved with the following vote:

Aye – Clark, Elisco, Flanagan, Ruben, Valvassori, Young (6)

Nay – None (0)

Absent – Gary (1)

III. PUBLIC COMMENT (ON TOPICS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA)

There was no public comment.

IV. COMMUNITY RELATIONS FORUM MEMBER INTROUDCTIONS

Chair Clark asked each member of the Forum to introduce themselves and identify a potential area of improvement for the community. Members of the Forum shared the

following potential opportunities:

Chair Clark – Allyship for each other

Member Elisco – Opportunities and places for individuals to meet, gather and interact in the community

Member Flanagin – Community engagement/involvement among all residents and community organizations

Member Ruben – Conversations about how the Village can encourage more diversity in the community and to help with facilitating difficult conversations

Member Valvassori – Continue conversations as a Village

Member Young – Disseminate information to the community and support the Welcoming and Inclusive Community Pledge

V. DISCUSSION REGARDING FUTURE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES ON RACISM, SOCIAL EQUITY AND COMMUNITY BUILDING

Chair Clark asked for public comment on this topic. District 35 Superintendent Catherine Wang stated that she agrees with the ideas raised by the Forum and that District 35 would like to partner with the Community Relations Forum. She noted that conversations regarding racism are important and that the school district will have conversations within the schools and welcomed the opportunity to partner with the Forum.

Member Elisco asked whether there are Village policies that could be considered by the Forum to encourage more diversity in the community and to support interaction within the community. Village Manager Phil Kiraly shared that several community organizations have begun conversations on diversity and inclusion, such as Writers Theatre and the Glencoe Clergy Association. He noted that the Forum's formation, as created in the Village Code, aligns with the Welcoming and Inclusive Community Pledge. He suggested that the Forum can support dialogues within the community on important topics such as racism. Before considering an ordinance or programmatic step, he suggested that the Forum could help cultivate conversations with community organizations such as Family Service of Glencoe, the Glencoe Clergy Association, the Glencoe Historical Society and other organizations. Manager Kiraly noted that the Village's 2019 Community Survey feedback highlighted the importance of diversity.

Chair Clark noted that it is important to learn what makes individuals feel comfortable in the community, and how to make people feel comfortable with other people who are different.

Member Young stated that he agrees that Writers Theatre and Family Service of Glencoe could be tremendously helpful in sharing information and that it is important to foster opportunities for the community to engage.

Chair Clark suggested that food, music and art can be opportunities to bring people together.

Member Flanagin noted Chair Clark's comment that she has previously lived places where she felt uncomfortable and asked how feelings of comfort can be fostered. Member Flanagin commented that her perception of racism has grown and believes that there are opportunities to engage people within the community and outside of the community to

better understand racism, what makes people feel uncomfortable or comfortable and welcome.

Rev. Gary shared that he has been in Glencoe for nearly three years and that he has felt some alarm and concern. He believed that education about racism is important. He said that he believes cultural bias, racism, gender, age, healthcare, employment and housing are important. He noted that he believes it is important to educate the community and the area in order to grow and live together.

Member Ruben commented that many ideas that have been shared are external-facing and how the Forum can share information out to the community, and commented that he is interested in having conversations with other organizations and to have difficult conversations. He said that he hopes the Forum will listen to others to help formulate communications.

Director of Public Safety Cary Lewandowski stated that his goal is to ensure that the Public Safety Department is part of the Welcoming and Inclusive Community Pledge. He shared that he would like to be part of conversations as a listener and to learn how Public Safety can make people feel comfortable and welcome.

Member of the public Michael Halberstam from Writers Theatre noted that Writers Theatre would like to make itself available to be part of conversations in the community. He commented that Writers Theatre artists and staff have shared that they have felt uncomfortable. He stated that he believes it is important to address systemic racism as well as within the community, and commented that education needs to be provided by all. Mr. Halberstam indicated that Writers Theatre would like to be part of the conversation.

Member Valvassori stated that she agrees with Superintendent Wang and that it is important to look at all segments of the Village. She suggested that efforts need to be sustained and ongoing, and commented that the car caravan Rally for Racial Justice was a good start. She emphasized the importance of considering many layers and a committed effort.

Chair Clark asked about opportunities to work with the school district, such as on inclusivity. Member Elisco and Member Flanagan left the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Manager Kiraly stated that he believes there is a willingness within the community to build awareness. He noted that the Glencoe Public Library has implemented programs such as Drag Queen Story Time and noted that the program was very well-attended and the Library began the program before knowing how it would be received by the community. Manager Kiraly shared that the Village has established a relationship with the Walker-Thomas Group to conduct staff dialogues and training, beginning in the Public Safety Department, and is working to expand training to all staff and potentially the community at large.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Clark suggested that the Forum meet every other week or monthly as the Forum has dialogues with other community organizations. Several Forum members agreed with meeting every two weeks.

VI. ADJOURN

Member Young made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Member Ruben. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Clark, Gary, Ruben, Valvassori, Young (5)

Nay - None

Absent - Elisco, Flanagin (2)



VILLAGE OF GLENCOE MEMORANDUM

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DATE: July 6, 2020

TO: Community Relations Forum

FROM: Sharon Tanner, Assistant Village Manager

SUBJECT: **Discussion Regarding Future Community Engagement Initiatives on Racism, Social Equity and Community Building**

At the July 8, 2020 Community Relations Forum meeting, the Forum will discuss future community engagement initiatives on racism, social equity and community building. The discussion at the July 8 meeting is intended to continue the conversation that began at the June 25 meeting and begin the process of generating and discussing opportunities for the Forum to learn about the community's needs and develop dialogues with the community into the future. The July 8 meeting is not intended to be a single, concluding discussion on topics related to racism, social equity and community building.

At the June 25 Community Relations Forum meeting, members of the Forum shared initial ideas about potential opportunities for improvement within the community, including:

- Allyship
- Opportunities and places for people to meet
- Community engagement/involvement
- Encouraging diversity in the community
- Helping to facilitate difficult conversations
- Continuing conversations as a community
- Disseminating information to the community and supporting the Welcoming and Inclusive Community Pledge