



MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
GLENCOE COMMUNITY RELATIONS FORUM

Virtual Meeting
March 3, 2021 – 5 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. Assistant Village Manager Sharon Tanner was physically present at the Village Hall.

The meeting began at 5:03 p.m.

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Community Relations Forum		
Dipti Clark	Chair	Present
Margot Flanagan	Member	Present
Rev. Dwayne Gary	Member	Present
Annice Moses	Member	Present
Amy Mysel	Member	Arrived at 5:22 p.m.
Gary Ruben	Member	Present
Hilary Scott	Member	Present
Maureen Valvassori	Member	Present
Robert Young	Member	Present
Village Staff		
Cary Lewandowski	Public Safety Director	Present
Sharon Tanner	Assistant Village Manager	Present

II. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 17, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

Member Ruben made a motion, seconded by Member Scott to approve the meeting minutes of February 17, 2021, with correction of a scrivener’s error. The motion was approved with the following vote:

Aye – Clark, Flanagan, Gary, Moses, Ruben, Scott, Valvassori, Young (8)

Nay – None (0)

Absent – Mysel (1)

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

Chair Clark invited members of the public to comment on matters not on the agenda and asked Assistant Village Manager Tanner to read any comments that were submitted by e-mail in advance of the meeting. There were no public comments.

IV. DISCUSSION REGARDING FORUM INITIATIVES

Forum members shared updates on their subcommittees' initiatives. Member Scott shared that her subcommittee does not have an update on the Pulse of Glencoe initiative. Member Moses shared that she is working on a draft letter to contact individuals and Member Ruben will speak with members of the business community whose employees may be interviewed. Rev. Gary shared that the Town Hall subcommittee identified a list of potential panelists for a first panel discussion in April and the subcommittee is developing possible questions.

V. COMMUNICATION EXERCISE

The Forum decided to defer the communication exercise to a future meeting.

VI. DISCUSSION REGARDING ECODISTRICTS PRESENTATION

Chair Clark asked the Forum if there are any next steps or opportunities for partnership with the Sustainability Task Force (STF) regarding EcoDistricts. She asked whether any Forum members would like to be a liaison to the STF on the EcoDistricts initiative. Member Flanagan said that she reviewed the EcoDistricts protocols and reflected that it seems to include making the community welcoming in addition to environmentally sustainable. Member Moses brought up the concept of bridging communities and the idea of bridging Glencoe with a city garden project. Member Scott commented that if the Village were to proceed with EcoDistricts, there could be ways to accomplish the Forum's work in addition to community building. Chair Clark commented that the principles of inclusion in the EcoDistricts framework is aligned with the Forum's work. She asked if any members of the Forum would like to be points of contact for the STF.

VII. DISCUSSION REGARDING FEBRUARY 18 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chair Clark shared that she took away three themes from the public comments at the February 18 Committee of the Whole meeting: opportunities for LGBTQ community engagement, student involvement in the Forum and diversity of the Forum. Chair Clark suggested inviting a representative from Family Service of Glencoe to present to the Forum on opportunities for the Forum to engage with various groups within the community. Member Mysel reflected that some of the comments suggested that the Village support of the LGBTQ community by flying the rainbow flag or street light banners. Chair Clark suggested that this could be proposed to the Village Board. Member Moses suggested that support be expressed year-round. Rev. Gary agreed that the Forum should make recommendations to the Village Board to support recognition of various observances throughout the year. He also encouraged members of the community who are representative of diverse communities apply to serve on the Forum. Member Valvassori suggested that the Forum routinize contacting people who have made public comments to thank them for participating and volunteered to do so; members of the Forum supported this idea. Rev. Gary suggested that the Forum think about representation of young adults on the Forum. Members of the Forum discussed opportunities for student and young adult engagement and participation on the Forum.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Rev. Gary suggested that the Forum may recommend planning a community event in the

future featuring food, games and sharing information about the Forum and the community. Members of the Forum expressed support for the idea, and Member Mysel commented that the Forum may need to think about potential timing as circumstances related to COVID-19 change. Member Valvassori echoed Member Moses' prior suggestion to engage students in a poster contest, the winner of which could be announced at the event.

Chair Clark left the meeting at 6:02 p.m. and asked Member Valvassori, who serves as Vice Chair, to act as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Rev. Gary shared that Glencoe Union Church and St. Paul AME Church partner on an annual book reading, and that a book discussion will be held next Wednesday. Robert P. Jones, author of *White Too Long: The Legacy of White Supremacy in American Christianity* will attend next week's book discussion.

IX. ADJOURN

Member Ruben made a motion to adjourn at 6:10 p.m., seconded by Member Flanagin. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

Aye -Flanagin, Gary, Moses, Mysel, Ruben, Scott, Valvassori, Young (8)

Nay - None (0)

Absent - Clark (1)