



MEETING MINUTES
VILLAGE OF GLENCOE
GLENCOE COMMUNITY RELATIONS FORUM

Virtual Meeting
April 21, 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	Present
Gary Ruben	Member	Present
Hilary Scott	Member	Present
Maureen Valvassori	Member	Present
Robert Young	Member	Present
Village Staff		
Cary Lewandowski	Director of Public Safety	Present
Sharon Tanner	Assistant Village Manager	Present

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.

II. TOWN HALL PANEL DISCUSSION

Chair Clark introduced guest panelists Dr. Catherine Wang, Superintendent of District 35; Bill Hansen, Executive Director of Family Service of Glencoe; Karen Ettelson, Co-President of the Glencoe Historical Society; and a team from Writers Theatre.

The Forum asked attendees a polling question, “What might be the best way to get a read on Glencoe residents’ views on DEI? (select any or all)” 73% of respondents selected, “Survey all households;” 27% of respondents selected, “Hold virtual ‘open mic’ events to get a range

of resident views;" and 35% of respondents selected, "Invite residents to write in messages/share their point of view."

Dr. Wang presented information regarding District 35's approaches to diversity, equity and inclusion, discussing student and staff diversity; the District's review of its policies and practices, instructional resources, professional development, and school, home and community. She shared the District's commitment to having courageous conversations. She shared the District's key areas of focus identified in its strategic plan, including deepening inclusion.

Mr. Hansen shared information regarding Family Service of Glencoe's (FSG) history and work as a mental health service provider and social work agency. He shared how FSG promotes and prioritizes diversity, equity and inclusion. He shared information regarding FSG's partnership with community organizations and FSG's planned initiatives to continue emphasize diversity, equity and inclusion in its work.

Ms. Ettelson shared how the Glencoe Historical Society (GHS) has approached diversity, equity and inclusion. She shared information regarding GHS's core values, including its value to foster and embrace diversity of cultures, gender, age, background, race, religion and ability. Ms. Ettelson shared information regarding past GHS programs and exhibits that included aspects of diversity, equity and inclusion, as well as prominent individuals in Glencoe history.

Mr. Halberstam introduced the Writers Theatre team, including Bobby Kennedy, Director of New Work; Arik Beatty, Database Administrator and Technology Manager and Co-Chair of the Anti-Racism Working Group at Writers Theatre; and Sam Aguilar, Audience Services Manager and Co-Chair of the Anti-Racism Working Group at Writers Theatre. Mr. Halberstam shared that Writers Theatre has examined its practices related to diversity, equity and inclusion. Mr. Kennedy shared information about initiatives undertaken by Writers Theatre, including enhancement of workplace policies, affirming the culture and values of the organization (including its value of being an anti-racist institution), code of conduct and anti-harassment training. Mr. Beatty shared information about Writers Theatre's People of Color Cohort. Ms. Aguilar shared information regarding Writers Theatre's staff anti-racist working group.

The Forum asked questions of the panelists and invited attendees to ask questions. Cathy Koehler asked Mr. Hansen if FSG has evaluated its board recruitment. Mr. Hansen shared that as FSG reviews its practices, it can review its recruitment practices to be more diverse in its recruitment.

The Forum asked a second poll question, 100% of respondents indicated they would support the Village promoting a broad way to show that DEI is embraced community-wide.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

VII. ADJOURN

Member Scott made a motion to adjourn at 6:56 p.m., seconded by Member Ruben. Said motion was approved by the following roll call vote:

Aye - Clark, Flanagin, Gary, Moses, Mysel, Ruben, Scott, Valvassori, Young (9)
Nay - None (0)