



RUTHERFORD CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION MINUTES – April 28, 2021

Meeting via ZOOM

Topic: Rutherford Civil Rights Commission’s ZOOM Meeting

Time: April 28, 2021 6:30pm Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join ZOOM Meeting

Meeting ID:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86489690656?pwd=WWJJb0hWU0xuazdyRU94UEVCUFZ0dz09>

Beverly Khan Pal	Maria Begg-Roberson (Council Liaison)
Steve Way	Sami Abuauad
Renjith Pillai	Mary Ahn (Student Liaison)
Alcides Aguasvivas	Rod Leith (Public Guest)
Shefali Pilar	Eddy Rolon (Public Guest)
Lori Rosario-Griffin	Gretchen Corsillo (Library Liaison)
Esther Gatria	Bill Brennan
Christie Del Rey-Cone	Tarek Salib
Mark Tenn	
Ginny Perrin	
Jessica Lezcano	
Paul Frazier	

\*Present – highlighted

6:32pm – Call to order – Reading of Sunshine Law – Steve Way

- REVIEW PAST MINUTES – completed. Minutes approved
- No members of the public present
- Scholarship – Lori Rosario-Griffin
  - Lori asked Alcides to develop a flyer for the scholarship
  - She will also put together a simple application for any applicants
  - Applicant must be a senior in high school, a Rutherford resident and interested in African American Studies (Bergen Academies, Rutherford HS, St. Mary’s)
  - She will reach out to the schools to get the word out – Steve will give her the email to the head of the guidance department who will put it in their system, and he advised that she contact the person in charge of morning announcements

- Mission Statement – Ginny Perrin
  - She feels that there is a lot of important language in the bylaws that need to be integrated into the mission statement. She will have another meeting to discuss this further.
- Multicultural Festival – Paul Frazier
  - He has some outlines for festivals he has worked on in the past but he wants to know what the parameters are for the multicultural festival in our town.
  - There are several questions that came up and answered as to how things were managed in the past:
    - Performers will be compensated: approximately \$100-150 for dance performers; for music \$1000.
    - Budget in the past was \$15,000 however we had great sponsors and we are unsure how and if we can raise that much money this year.
  - Steve thinks we should have it early September to coincide with our anniversary – perhaps September 18<sup>th</sup> (Rain date 25)
    - We are considering having the festival be multiple days rather than one day. Paul will come up with ideas if this is the case
  - Maria says she will get it on the agenda for the next council meeting to determine what date would be best and to see what would be required for COVID precautions
  - Consider a hybrid event – some aspects can be virtual
  - Esther – husband has friends who are musicians and she also mentioned some dance studios that she can contact to see if they want to participate.
- Treasury – Renjith Pillai
  - Bank balance is \$5355.53 as of March 31, 2021
  - Cashola fundraiser ideas discussed for the multicultural festival and suggestions to contact the following businesses to find out what they are willing to donate/contribute:
    - Pancake house fundraiser – We would get \$5 for each ticket we sell (\$15 tickets) – Alcides will talk to the owner
    - Ferazolli – we would get 3% of their sales – Steve will talk to them
    - Chipolte – Beverly will contact them
    - Rutherford Coffee Shop – Ginny will call them
    - Elia
    - Annabella’s
    - Goffins – Alcides will reach out to them
  - Beverly asked Al to put together a list of talking points and a flyer so we are all on the same page
- In the past we had sponsored some plaques on Tamblyn Field. The Historic Preservation Society is asking that we sponsor a plaque to honor the owners of Hoag House located at 127 Donaldson Ave.
  - Cost will be approximately \$1500
  - Beverly is not ready to vote on this item yet because we still need to solidify our Mission Statement
- Beverly – asked Mark to send his speech that he wrote for the Candlelight Vigil for the AAPI Community to Alicides to have it posted on our website
- Archives – Alcides

- He found a company in Bergen County that gave a scanning proposal that comes down to \$0.60 per page for a high resolution scan of the documents that need to get archived. Total cost will be approximately \$1200.
  - To recap, we did get a grant from Goffin's to organize our archives of \$300 (\$150 of that went towards a ZOOM account) and an additional \$725 was also given as a grant
    - We should not have used the Goffin's money towards the ZOOM account so that will need to be reimbursed and reallocated
  - So, he is asking only \$325 from the RCRC towards the total cost of the scanning project.
- Once this gets approved and we bring the documents there, it will take about a week for the scan and develop PDF files. Then we can organize them and load them onto the website.
- About 95% of all the documents are 8.5x11 documents.
- Alcides will get a 2<sup>nd</sup> quote to present to the town for approval purposes (They require two before they decide)
- Purpose: All the documents in questions are just sitting in filing cabinets and getting damaged with air/dust. If we do not preserve them appropriately, the information will eventually be lost from damage. If we are able to archive them and load them on to the website (or even keep them internally on a hard-drive), then we can preserve all this history and all the accomplishments we have done in the RCRC.
- Reimbursement Motions
  - \$28.16 for Go Daddy account – Steve motions to re-imburse B. Goldberg for the domain name.
  - \$149.90 for ZOOM account – motion made to re-imburse Alcides for the ZOOM account. Steve made the motion, Christie seconded it and it is approved.
  - Maria – thinks that the treasurer should always be the person who submits purchase orders and keep track of people who need reimbursements.
  - Jessie – explained how a purchase order is submitted. It must be a paper copy.
  - Beverly – wants to know if we can provide Renjith direct access to be able to receive reimbursements.
- Bylaws – Christie and Lori – they are working with the Borough attorney (Bo)
  - We are not ready to vote on this meeting because we are still getting some comments from commission members.
  - Christie – We have a solid draft of the bylaws and she feels that a few of the comments that she received recently were substantial enough that they need to be presented to the Borough attorney prior to final draft.
  - Once we approve it, then Bo will present it to the council for approval.
- Movie screening proposal – Mark Tenn
  - In the past we have used the theater in the library but that is indoors. We would prefer outdoor space.
  - His biggest question is fundraising and how to finance this project.
- Admiral Crawford meeting
  - He is excited to work with us and wants to attend a future meeting
  - He may have some funds and space at Felician
  - Juneteenth is coming up and he may want to have elements of that event at Felician
- May is Asian Pacific Island Heritage month – Christie

- She is looking for ideas to recognize and honor this group during the month of May
  - Ideas – reading books to younger children in schools
  - ADL.org is the website Christie was using that had a lot of resources
- Steve will be away May 6-15
- 7:43pm Steve closes the meeting