



RUTHERFORD CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION MINUTES – Sept 21 2022

Topic: Rutherford Civil Rights Commission’s Meeting

Steve Way -absent	Matt Cokeley (Council Liaison) – absent
Beverly Khan Pal	Jessica Warren Frazier
Renjith Pillai	Sam Riviello
Alcides Aguasvivas	Lauren Caliolio
Shefali Pilar	Guest - Bonnie Corcoran – 390 Montross Avenue
Ginny Perrin	Guest - Ed Gajda – 123 Eastern Way
Christie Del Rey-Cone	
Mark Tenn	
Lori Rosario-Griffin	
Jessica Lezcano - absent	
Paul Frazier – absent	
Sami Abuauad	
Esther Gatria	

\*Present – highlighted

- Meeting called in accordance with the Sunshine Law (read) and called to order 6:35pm
- Minutes from August reviewed and motion to pass minutes made by Lori and seconded by Christie
- Guest – Bonnie Corcoran (390 Montross Avenue)
  - Steve Way has placed a letter in the mail to Bonnie in response to her concern from Sept 17<sup>th</sup>
- Alcides said that website has been updated
- Festival debrief
  - Festival was a huge success
  - Biggest feedback that Beverly got was that people heard about the event from our website
  - There was an error made by a journalist who posted the wrong date
  - The live video that Beverly took at 4:30pm of the food truck went viral
  - Mark says that more people were present than last year

- All the food trucks were profitable this year as compared to last year.
  - If we want them to come back, they want us to get in touch with them in February 2023
- Christie – vendor review
- Ginny – receipts and thank you notes sent to all the sponsors
- The production company was happy to come back
- Payment to performers was handles efficiently due to the protocols that Ginny had established
- Ginny – DPW’s job is to set up and break down
- Ginny – do we want to consider two evenings instead of an evening and a full day. The concern with this is we may not have enough time for all the performances.
- There were more interactive acts.
- The Black Elders want to continue their conversation about educating the Commission about black history.
  - Christie will do a Doodle for tentative dates
- Poster and Essay Contest with Felician – they are still sponsoring but we need to come up with the theme, the dates they are running it.
  - We need to check to see how much we have sponsored in the past
  - Possible prizes – gift cards to Williams Center, Pancake House, Top That, etc.
  - 4 schools, 4 winners and 4 runner ups
  - Possible theme – Walk of Fame (NPS.gov)
  - Ginny – is there any prior rubric to the judging
    - We should create one or find one to help us develop guidelines
  - Send out the flier with criteria, dates, theme, etc in December and the poster, essays will be collected at the library and the Mayor and Council will
  - Ginny reviewed a past poster/essay contest flier
  - Committee meeting will need to be scheduled
- Holiday Dinner - In lieu of a December meeting, we can have a holiday event
  - Options: Song E Napole
  - Tentative Date – December 7<sup>th</sup>
- Outgoing officers’ succession planning
  - Several people have their 3-year term coming to an end
  - Christie – wants to know if people can reapply to be part of the Commission again
  - We need final list of Officers who plan to stay or leave soon
  - We need to identify the gaps we will have in skill sets and send that to MC so they can see what types of people we may need – start a white paper in slack
- Tribute to the Marshall Brothers by referring to Elm Street as Marshall Place
  - The Marshall Brothers are an African American family with a long history of accomplishments in Rutherford. One of them served as the inspiration for the famous William Carlos Williams poem called “The Red Wheelbarrow”. The Marshall Brothers also served our country in WWII. The HPC, Shade Trade Commission, and Meadowlands Museum has voted in support of it.
  - CRC is being asked to vote to support this tribute and make our support for the tribute known.
  - Bill Galloway has expressed concerns about this tribute that should be heard prior to us voting.
- Meeting called to close at 7:48pm