



Village of Homewood  
Community Relations Commission  
Minutes from January 4, 2021

Village Board Room  
2020 Chestnut  
Homewood, IL 60430

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM, by Chairman Phil Kosanovich

**ROLL CALL:** The meeting was held via Zoom, due to shelter in place executive order. Members present were Phil Kosanovich, Nancy Spaniak, Gianni Sansone, Andre Thames, Shannon Olison, Troy O'Quin, and Keith Harris.

**In attendance from the Village Board:** Trustee Lauren Roman. Village Staff Liaisons in attendance, Jennifer Quirke.

**Not in Attendance:** Heather O'Malley and Tom Hamilton.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was put forth by Spaniak to approve the December 7, 2020 minutes, O'Quin second the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There were no public comments.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:****A. Community Relations Committee Review**

Chairperson Kosanovich asked for all members participating in the Zoom meeting to give an update on themselves and their families during this time of shelter in order, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic. Each member gave their personal update to the group.

**B. Village Update**

Quirke reviewed community updates with the committee.

- EmpanadaUS and Saucy Crab will open this spring. EmpanadaUS has dealt with construction issues, which has postponed their opening. Saucy Crab is located next to Kohl's on Halsted.
- Juneteeth- Destiny Watson Director of You Matter 2 is coordinating the event. Juneteenth festivities will take place on Saturday, June 19, 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm. The event will start with a parade from the parking lot of Woodlands Church, and end at Homewood Flossmoor High School, North-building parking lot. There will be carnival activities, Black owned art and food vendors.
- Artisan Street Fair- Due to COVID it was decided to use the same model as the Homewood Farmers Market to create an Artisan Street Walk with only artisans vendors. The Village is once again teaming up with Loulou Belle for the event.
- Water Line Project-The Village will connect water lines with Chicago Heights, which connects to Hammond, IN. Construction is planned to begin in the summer of 2021 and expected to be completed in the summer of 2022. This timeframe is dependent on the issuance of all permits and the approval to proceed from the IEPA.

## C. Schedule Community Relations Committee Meetings:

- January 4
- February 1-cancelled
- March 1
- April 5
- May 3
- June 7
- July –No meeting
- August 2
- September 13
- October 4
- November 1-Posibly postpone to a later date in November if we host Holiday Lights
- December 6-To be determined based on Holiday Lights

## D. Homewood for the Holidays Initiatives

The Village was still able to host safe holiday experiences and eagerly planning opportunities for 2021. The committee member s reviewed ideas to promote shop local.

- Spend \$100 in a local business and receive \$20.
- January, the Homewood Business Association hosts PJ Shopping, review ideas for Family Pajama event

## E. Book Walk January 9

The Village will offer another family book walk in downtown Homewood. The book walk will start on Martin Avenue, on the windows of the old Triumph building and travel West on Ridge Road. The book is “Feathers for Lunch” by Lois Ehlert. Participants can receive a free book from Bookies Book store, located at 2015 Ridge Road. “Feathers for Lunch” coincides with the Homewood Science Centers, Citizens Science initiative “All About Birds”.

## F. MLK Day of Service

Martin Luther King Day of Service is on Monday, January 18. Although we are still in the Governor’s mitigation stage, there are opportunities for families to volunteer. The Village of Flossmoor has opportunities listed on their website.

## G. Homewood Arts Council (HAC)

HAC is offering fun Community Art Project "If I Were a Bird"

Homewood Science Center and Homewood Arts Council ask you to contribute poems, paintings, sketches, sculptures, photographs, and more to be displayed in the windows at 2018 Ridge Rd. In February, HAC will sponsor HAC Attack, Virtual Challenge, and more information to come.

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

Committee member Olison reviewed Vineyard Church is offering free shoveling to Homewood Senior residents. The group discussed the Mayor creating a Resolution for Vineyard Church volunteering to snow shovel senior resident’s sidewalks.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, February 1, at 7:00PM

**ADJOURNMENT:** O’Quin put forth a motion to adjourn the meeting and Olison second the motion.

Respectfully submitted,  
Allisa Opyd