



Our Mission:

To inform, celebrate, promote,
understand, appreciate, and respect
the many diverse cultures that enrich Stamford

**Mayor's Multicultural Council of Stamford
Mayor's Conference Room – 10th Floor – Government Center,
888 Washington Blvd., Stamford, CT 06901
May 22, 2017**

MINUTES

Members Present: Pilar Pelaez, Paul Isla, Martin Levine, Eva Weller, Eva Padilla, Jeré Eaton, Leila Montier, Tom Bellele, Beatrice Chodosh, Corey Paris and Ana Gallegos.

Meeting called to order by Chair Pilar Pelaez at 6:10 p.m.

Welcome

Chair Pelaez welcomed MMC members and Guests and thanked them for attending the meeting. She asked MMC members to take a few minutes to review and approve the minutes of the last meeting. Marty made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction of the name of Officer Frank Green; Leila seconded the motion.

Project Updates:

Children's Day Parade & International Festival 2017

Pilar noted that members of the planning committee met and prepared a proposal for items to be purchased for the parade. Ana Gallegos, Leila Montier and Hayate Jandar attended the meeting.

Pilar presented an update:

- The Children's Parade and International Festival will take place on October 1st at Mill River Park.
- After the proposal is approved by the MMC the committee will request a meeting with Matt Quinones from SPEF.
- This year, sweaters or long sleeved t-shirts, and hats will be provided for volunteers, depending on the price.
- This year, we'll focus on giving more presents to kids as an incentive to participate. Suggestions: gift certificates from Target and/or Barnes & Noble; entrance tickets for the Norwalk's Aquarium or Stepping Stone Museum. Nino and Hayate volunteered to request donations.
- The flyer and program are in process.
- Save the date flyers will be emailed.

Calendar of events

Pilar presented a model of the calendar. She asked members to review and share any events to include on the calendar and/or post in Facebook.

Beatrice mentioned the calendar could be shared with the community. Marty said it could be possible to create a page on the city website.

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Budget:

Pilar presented a document sent by Valerie with information about MMC expenditures. The total is \$8,452. Paul mentioned that \$2,000 related to printing expenses were not included. Pilar would speak with Valerie.

Jeré said that she could offer the products the MMC are thinking of buying since she is an expert in the field. Pilar said Jeré can provide quotes sweaters or long sleeves t-shirts and hats in quantity of 100 and 200. Hayate and Pilar will request three estimates from different places and we will go with the best price. Pilar also stated she would prefer to use outside vendors to avoid conflict of interest. Jeré said that it was OK because it is not a big transaction.

Beatrice asked for a detailed explanation of the expenses. Pilar said she will contact Valerie for more information.

New Business

Leila Montier, member of the MCC informed that she is taking the PLTI program (Parent Leadership Training Institute). One of the requirements of this program is to work on a community project. She presented to the Council a proposal about her project: **Civic-Minded Informational Workshop Covering Health, Safety and Well-Being**. She is planning to have this event on June 29 at the Ferguson Library from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The event will have at least five components:

1. Health information
2. Education and career
3. The police department
4. Social and economic trends affecting children and families
5. Social and community organizations

A light snack, drinks and prizes will be offered.

Leila requested the MMC sponsor her project. A contribution of \$300 was approved, as well as use of the MMC logo for the flyer.

Beatrice mentioned that some MMC members attended the event “Everyday Democracy” at the Ferguson Library. She read their mission and then suggested working with them. Eva Weller added that it’s a way to connect people in the community. At the event, they trained, and formed groups of twelve, with facilitators and moderators. It was suggested the MMC invite someone from that organization to an MMC meeting to provide more information about the group. Beatrice offered to contact them and extend an invitation to come to our next meeting.

Open Discussion:

Eva and Beatrice shared information about events from CRISOL. On June 10 it will hold a walk and picnic.

Also there will be events related to prescription medication, presentation by a dentist, and a workshop for couples. They will send more information about the events.

Eva Weller extended the invitation made by the Jewish Historical Society of Fairfield County to the Inaugural Norma and Milton Mann Lecture, with Professor John Q. Barret. This event will take place on Sunday, June 11, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at Temple Beth El.

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Paul introduced a friend, Paula, owner of Tropiglance, who expressed interest in being part of the MMC. Pilar explained that she needed to send her resume to Marty and to the Chair.

Jeré shared with the group that she was diagnosed with breast cancer and her chemo regimen is scheduled to finalize in August. She said she is positive about the outcome. She invited members to participate in the Stamford Hospital "Hope in Motion". She reminded everyone to be sensitive about the changes or experiences of people in order to avoid unnecessary hurting of feelings. We all agree and thank her for sharing, and that we are here to help and support.

Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be held at the Government Center on June 26, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. on the 10th floor.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by:
Ana Gallegos,
Secretary