



VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

May 23, 2023, 7pm
Village Hall

MINUTES

Call to Order

Cmmr Riffice called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Hatcher-Holmes, Ramsey, Dorsey, Deugaw, Mathis, Riffice

Absent: Commissioners Leon-Thompson, O'Shea, Al-Amin, Young

A quorum was present

Staff Present: Jonathan Bogue, Stephanie Wright, Police Chief Jones

Special Guest: Esperanza Castellano, Village Admin Assistant

There were no residents presents to address the CRC

Approval of April 24, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Cmmr Ramsey brought forth a motion to approve the minutes with a second by Cmmr Hatcher-Holmes. Minutes were passed as written.

Resident Reminders – Chief Jones

- Chief Jones will be adding additional duties to two individuals to address the following:
 - A social media officer will assist the command staff with social media representation for the Flossmoor Police Department. Facebook and Instagram will be key tools and will share a unified voice with the Village and shared messaging on the Village website.
 - A recruitment officer will be put in place to continue to brand the organization and identify eligible police candidates now and in the future. This officer will visit local and regional career fairs, support DEI efforts to recruit a diverse set of candidates, visit HBCUs, etc.
 - In addition, Chief Jones discussed entry level and lateral testing for external candidates to build a list of eligible candidates.
- FPD is responding to community concerns regarding vehicle thefts. A program will be in place to provide qualified residents with vehicle deterrent devices for selected Kia and Hyundai vehicles.
- The next Coffee with a Cop event will introduce the chief to the community and will also introduce his new command team.
- Chief Jones addressed concerns about crowd and mob control given the recent youth flash mob (400 individuals) in Tinley Park that necessitated closing down the event.
 - Chief Jones stated that crowd management is challenging to small police departments but the FPD can formulate incident action plans to mitigate the risk of unruly groups.
 - The chief cited overt activities like tracking social media traffic, pre-messaging the community (if you see something, say something), and using officers from other communities to assist.
 - There are covert activities as well that the public will not be privy to.
- AVM Bogue stated that Chief Jones is already proactively preparing for summer and fall events.



VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

- Flossmoor Fest will be physically laid out differently than in previous years to better provide public safety.
- HFHS Representative Mathis shared that kids use individual messaging on Snap Chat rather than group messaging; it is harder to chase since the messages on Snap Chat are dynamic.

New Business

- Stephanie Wright shared ways to enhance events with CRC Support. It's as simple as endorsing the event(s) on social media with a like or comment or share.
 - Pride is June 9 and is a combined event with HF Parks, Homewood, and Flossmoor
 - It will be at Irwin Park
 - Flossmoor will have a booth and Commissioners are invited to be welcoming and affirming to the LGBTQ+ community
 - Juneteenth Festival is June 17, the parade is June 19.
 - Parade attendance is welcome
 - National Night Out (a community policing event) is August 1, the location is TBD
 - Recyclepalooza is sponsored by the Green Commission on Oct 7 at Parker Junior High
 - The CRC can partner with HF students to sponsor a food drive for Respond Now
 - Will discuss and plan this event at the June or July CRC meeting
- Flossmoor Fest will have a CRC booth like last year. We will provide ways to connect with the Village, HFHS, SD 161, HF Parks, and MLK Day of Service. Where possible we will offer a QR code that links to an informational site
 - HFHS Representative Mathis suggested adding a booth with HFHS small business owners to share information and sell their wares; AVM Bogue offered up a free tent for them; Rep Mathis will provide the names of small business owners to the CRC by the June meeting
 - Suggestions for entertaining youth included a 360 photo booth, a sucker tree, a band and/or student DJ
 - Cmmr Riffice requested that all suggestions for Fest swag and booth ideas be sent to Stephanie Wright by June 20 for discussion at the June 26 meeting.
- Sleep in Heavenly Peace will be on Oct 12, 2024
 - Cmmr Riffice requested that AVM Bogue seek permission from Public Works for the event to be held on that date outside the facility
 - Cmmr Riffice contacted SHP to ask if they have a preferred layout, need tents, need specific power requirements, etc.



VILLAGE OF FLOSSMOOR COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Good of the Order

- AVM thanked the CRC because our recommendation to the Trustees to expand the social media platform was formally adopted on May 15.
- Cmmr Ramsey announced that he was one of 20 individuals selected from over 1800 candidates to participate in the Obama Foundation's Change Collective Leadership Program. This program looks to "reinvent civic life for the 21st century by investing in and supporting the next generation of leaders who are bridging divides and driving change in their communities." Chicago is one of three cities in the program (along with Detroit, Jackson MS)
 - Cmmr Ramsey is proud to represent the village, his employer, and the CRC
 - We celebrate Cmmr Ramsey's selection in this inaugural 12-month class and know he is the right man for this important effort

Next Meeting Date and Adjournment

- Cmmr Dorsey brought forth a motion to close the meeting, Cmmr Ramsey provided a second. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52pm.
- Next meeting is June 26, 2023