

**PROPOSED MINUTES
BY GREENVILLE HUMAN RELATIONS COUNCIL
AUGUST 25, 2016**

The Greenville Human Relations Council (GHRC) met Wednesday, August 25, 2016 at 6:00 PM in the Compstat Room, located on the third floor of the Municipal Building. Members present denoted by *, members absent denoted by x.

Samar Badwan-* Isaac Chemmanam-x Isaac Blount-* Jim Cox-* Lloyd Horton -*
Byung Lee -* Prudencio Martinez-Mengel-* Joyce Mitchell-* Bill Neely-*
Franchine Peña-* Heena Shah-* Bonnie Snyder-x Jake Srednicki-x Rajesh Verma-x
Ritvik Verma-x Kathy Moore-*

Rose Glover, Council Member-x Cassandra Daniels, Staff Liaison-*

Other(s): Nancy Colville

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Several announcements were provided about upcoming community events.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Joyce Mitchell, seconded by Jim Cox, to approve the April 26, 2016 minutes with the necessary corrections, if there be any. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Franchine Peña, seconded by Samar Badwan, to approve the May 26, 2016, minutes with the necessary corrections, if there be any. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Youth Fest

Cassandra Daniels gave an update regarding the Youth Fest. This event is sponsored by the Youth Council and the Human Relations Council is cosponsoring. The flyer and vendor/informational booth information is available. Staff is currently waiting to hear from Uptown Greenville regarding use of Five-Points Plaza. The event is scheduled to take place on Saturday, October 8th from 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

A Day to Remember – September 11, 2001

The draft copy of the proclamation was presented to the Council. A final copy of the proclamation as revised is included:

WHEREAS, the unprovoked attacks of September 11, 2001, upon America have thrust the United States, and other countries into a conflict it never envisioned;

WHEREAS, America is fully committed to ensuring our freedoms remain unfettered and sovereign for all generations;

WHEREAS, we will NEVER FORGET the innocent victims who did not die in vain;

WHEREAS, America can remind the world that the deaths of these people will always be remembered and they will be forever loved;

WHEREAS, the commemoration should be conducted each September 11th throughout the land to include:

- The promotion of global peace and good will
- The celebration of love for humankind
- The poignant remembrance of those innocent victims who died September 11, 2001 as heroes

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina do hereby proclaim September 11, 2016 as

A DAY TO REMEMBER

to memorialize those men, women and children who lost their lives. And be it further resolved that this proclamation be publicized for all to see and know that the Greenville community remembers with eternal respect those whose lives were taken on September 11, 2001. May the forever rest in peace and abide in our memories.

This 8th day of September 2016.

Also, a draft copy of the program was presented for Council's review. Included is a copy of the program:

Music: Dr. Carroll V. Dashiell, Jr.

EMCEE: Mrs. Joyce Mitchell

Posting of Colors: Greenville Police and Fire/Rescue Color Guards

Welcome: Mr. Byung Lee, Chairperson

Special Recognitions

Reading of Proclamation: Mayor Pro-Tem Kandie Smith

National Anthem: Miss Amaya Serrano

Invocation: Rev. William Neely, Pastor

COMMENTS: Mayor Allen Thomas
Colonel Tim Wiseman

Chief Eric Griffin

Sheriff Neil Elks

Chief Mark Holtzman

Dr. Austin Bunch

Laying of Wreaths/Bell Tolls

Remarks: Council Member Rose Glover

Retire the Colors

Amazing Grace (printed on back of program)

Inclusive Community Breakfast

Cassandra Daniels stated the Inclusive Community Breakfast is scheduled for September 22nd at 2016 at the Greenville Hilton. The breakfast will start at 8:30 a.m. Staff suggested the Council consider having two speakers that will give their perspective on Trust, Respect and Unity. Judge James Wynn and Chief Mark Holtzman were suggested as possible presenters. The Council decided it would be best to just have one presenter and recommended staff check the availability of Judge Wynn. If he's not available, then we go with Chief Holtzman.

The Council discussed at length regarding Judge Wynn being a part of the judicial system, however, Judge Wynn was an attorney in the Greenville community for years prior to becoming a judge. His will be able to speak to the community because of his history in the community and because of his knowledge of the community; he will be able to speak how communities need to come together. The Council

Sister City Program

Byung Lee stated he visited Korea a few weeks ago and had the opportunity to visit Yeonsu, Korea. There population is approximately 350,000. They are requesting an official letter from the Mayor. They would like to have a cultural exchange program and student exchange program. They suggest the first two – three years is for building relationships and then officially we can join as an official sister city. They will provide room and board when we arrive and when they visit us, we will provide room and board. However, everyone will have to pay their airline expenses.

Byung Lee stated he checked with the Chamber of Commerce but they don't have anything going on at this time. It was suggested that members of the subcommittee (Samar Badwan, Jim Cox, and Byung Lee) met with representatives from Chamber of Commerce, Visitors and Convention Bureau, the Mayor and any others that have an interest in exploring the possibility of a Sister City Initiative with Korea.

Connecting People: Planting Seeds to Dismantle Racism

Byung Lee stated the next community dialogue is scheduled Thursday, October 27th at 6:00 pm. The dialogue is on the same night as the Council's regular meeting. The Council has to decide on the following:

- A joint or combined meeting with the dialogue,
- Reschedule the regular meeting to another date,
- Change the date for the community dialogue.

Cassandra Daniels stated a joint or combined meeting means it is noted there is a quorum of the Human Relations Council and a summary of the dialogue are the minutes. Byung Lee will have to open the dialogue just as he does for the Council's regular meeting. Also, the dialogue is scheduled at First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Neely suggested the Council consider other churches or places be used for the dialogue. The Council agreed with Rev. Neely and proposed the following churches are contacted for the October 27th dialogue: Sycamore Hill, KCC, Peace, Jarvis and Cornerstone.

A motion was made by Samar Badwan, seconded by Heena Shah, that the Council hold a joint meeting on Thursday, October 27th at 6:00 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Senior Citizens Annual Christmas Luncheon

Cassandra Daniels stated the Christmas luncheon for Senior Citizens will take place on Thursday, December 1st at 11:30 am. The event will be held at the Drew Steele Center.

2017 Annual Awards Ceremony

Cassandra Daniels stated the Annual Awards program will take place at the Greenville Hilton on Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Samar Badwan, seconded by Jim Cox, to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Cassandra Daniels

Cassandra Daniels
Human Relations Officer