



Meeting Minutes

Cultural Affairs Advisory Board Meeting
September 2, 2021

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by board chair, Glinda Townsley.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: John Barrant, Charmaine Donald, Aura Lopez, Martha Martinez, Myrurgia (Maggie) Pichardo, Carole Simmons, Glinda Townsley
City Liaison: Kevin Pickard, Leisure Services Director

Open Discussion

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2021 meeting was made by Maggie Pichardo and seconded by Charmaine Donald. The motion carried without opposition.

Old Business

Back to School Round-Up- A total of 836 backpacks containing school supplies were given away at the annual event. Remaining backpacks were given to Sunrise Schools for distribution. The event featured 15 Sunrise schools, 17 vendors, Panthers' mascot, Victor E. Rat and Roar Corps, as well as representatives from Sunrise Code Enforcement, Fire and Police. The line moved a little slowly at first, but picked up once the books were moved to a different area to give people more time to choose.

Comic-Con- The number of event tickets sold totaled 1,237. School of Rock band played for over two hours. Seventy-five people registered for CosPlay. Aura Lopez attended with her boys and they enjoyed the gaming area. Ms. Lopez participated in CosPlay. She shared that there was a long wait but complimented staff that offered water and continually communicated with participants during the wait time.

Drumming Workshop- Rhythms in Conversation- Fifty-five people attended the workshop hosted by Willie Stewart, from Third World Band. Percussion instruments from around the world were on display and Mr. Stewart showed attendees how each one sounded. For the second half of the program, he played different genres of music while the crowd danced along to the beats.

New Business

Cultural Festival Update- The board was shown examples of the new Cultural Festival logo. Discussion followed. Their suggestions sent to staff for consideration and final selection. The board was given the schedule of events for the Cultural Festival. One of the bands previously suggested did not respond to communications, so the board listened to one other band and they all agreed the band was a good fit for the festival.

Board members were impressed with the emcee at the July 4th parade and asked to see if he is available for the festival. They were informed that emcee was Wayne Skervin, Recreation Supervisor at the Senior Center.

John Barrant asked if any of the groups previously involved in the festival were contacted. Kevin Pickard said that he would check with the Special Events staff.

City Park Activation- The board was informed that programs and activities are scheduled to begin in October. Glinda Townsley commented that the basketball area is always very busy. The board was happy to hear that there will be set hours after school for children 14 years and younger.

Upcoming Events

- 9/11 Ceremony- The 20th anniversary ceremony take place at the Civic Center Amphitheater, beginning at 8:30 a.m. This year, the City will honor three Sunrise firefighters that went to the site to help out.
- Mayors Chess Challenge- Join mayors, elected officials and community leaders from across Broward County in support of scholastic chess. Participants will receive a "Mayors' Chess Challenge Passport" that can be stamped at each event they attend during the 2021-2022 school year. Participation is free, and instructors will be on hand to help those new to the game. Visit www.sunrisefl.gov/chess for additional details and a complete schedule.

Board Discussion

Charmaine Donald wished everyone well in hopes that all stay vigilant through COVID-19 with the new Delta variant going around.

Carole Simmons asked if there will be stations for sanitizing at the City's events. Kevin Pickard responded that with resident safety always a priority, the larger events are being held outside and there will continue to be sanitizing stations throughout.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Charmaine Donald and seconded by Aura Lopez. The motion passed without opposition.