



Amherst Community Diversity Commission

Tuesday June 14th 2022
5:30pm via Zoom meeting

WELCOME & ROLL CALL: Dr. Mohan Devgun(acting) Commission Chair welcomed all the members and Gul A. Rahman secretary confirmed the quorum for the Amherst Community Diversity Commission.

ATTENDING: Dr. Mohan Devgun(acting) Commission Chair. Deborah Bruch Bucki, RN, PhD, Amherst Council Member/Commission Liaison. Commission Members: Anne Rohrer, Thomas Lucia, Zhen Lui, Pam Keifi, Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre, Gul Rahman, Dr. Joseph Sankoh, Tammy.

ABSENT: Maria Rosario Cala, Prachee Samant, Dr. Muhammad Asghar Khan

CHOOSE THE OFFICER-RULES OF ORDER:

1. CHAIR PERSON - Dr Mohan Devgun.

Nomination: First motion made by Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre, second motion by Pam Keifi. Approved unanimously.

Motion to close the nomination: first motion Pam Keifi and second by Gul Rahman. All board members in favor.

2.VICE PERSON - Pam Keifi

Nomination: First motion made by Dr. Mohan Devgun, second motion by Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre. Approved unanimously.

3.SECRETARY – Gul A. Rahman

Nomination: First motion made by Dr. Mohan Devgun, second by Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre. All board members in favor.

4. PUBLIC RELATION CHAIRPERSON - Anne Rohrer

Nomination: First motion made by Dr. Mohan Devgun, second motion by Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre. Approved unanimously.

5. EDUCATION COORDINATOR CHAIRPERSON - Thomas Lucia

Self-nominated, second by Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre & approved by all board members.

Nominations closed by Dr. Mohan Devgun and second by Gul A. Rahman.

Congratulations to New appointed members. Yay and hurray! by Deborah Bruch Bucki.

April 12th 2022 Meeting minutes approved: First motion by Anne Rohrer second by Joseph Sankoh. All in favor. No concerns.

REVIEW OF JUNETEENTH PROGRAM on June 17th,2022: Program organized by Heidi Nicklaus Lefebvre and Tammy at the Senior Center. Program to run a little over an hour. Melissa Abel will welcome everyone at 11:40am starting with introducing Derrick Baker principle of sweet home school. Lunch will be served at the table. \$5 for under 60 yrs. and \$3 over 60 yrs. Students from the Youth Department planning to volunteer in serving lunch. Dr. Mohan Devgun will say few word. Will be given Cynthia bass from the ECMC will be the key note speaker. Proclamation notes by Debbie Bruch Bucki to the representatives. Photo session to be held at the end. Also donation collection expected for books. Sponge candy, chocolates goodies will be given for the guests by the commission members.

DISPLAY IN SENIOR CENTER/LIBRARY: Library is under construction so no display in summer,2022. Program postponed till fall.

SCHOOL BOARD LIAISON: Tom spoke to all the schools about the Juneteenth program. Still work in progress on other upcoming projects and will update the commission.

TOWN LIAISON REPORT: Deborah Bruch Bucki gave brief report about Juneteenth event and display at the library in the fall. Debbie asked the commission members to write a letter for a formal budget request to the Town of Amherst. The requested amount is expected to be approx. \$250-\$500 for Commission future projects.

PUNJABI CULTURAL SHOW: Program postponed till July ,2022 due to unavailability of the space. Dr. Mohan Devgun will update the Commission later about the program.

OLD BUSINESS: All Members of Diversity Commission to coordinate with Pam Keifi to update their Biography and pictures at Town of Amherst site.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. New agenda to request Budget /money from Town to help in accomplishing Diversity Commission projects. Group can discuss and prepare a letter to request for the Town of Amherst. Ideas were exchanged between Zhen Lui, Debbie Bruch Bucki and Pam Keifi.

2. Role of Diversity Commission and proceedings were discussed as well about the Mass shooting and vigil. Also how to respond in racial issues & emergency scenarios of hate crimes. Dr. Joseph Sankoh gave his feedback.

HOLIDAY DISPLAY: Library of Amherst under construction so displays will be postponed till fall.

MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING: No Diversity Commission meeting in summer. Next Diversity Commission meeting will be held on Tuesday September 13th ,2022 at 5:30pm via zoom. First motion to adjourn the meeting by Pam Keifi and second by Joseph Sankoh. All approved.

MISSION STATEMENT: The purpose of this coalition is to enhance and increase cooperation, understanding, and dialogue among residents of diverse cultural, religious, socioeconomic and racial backgrounds, and to promote inclusion throughout the town. Some of the responsibilities of the coalition will be to study the demographics of Amherst; promote town-wide events that foster cultural awareness; increase minority participation on governmental boards and committees and in the Town's workplace; and to facilitate meetings designed to promote a better understanding of who Amherst is as a community.

Thanks

Gul A. Rahman
Secretary Amherst Community Diversity Commission