

**Town of Miami Lakes  
Cultural Affairs Committee  
Zoom meeting on June 2, 2020  
Minutes**

**Call to order:** Zoom meeting called to order by Neill Robinson at 4:00 p.m.

**Roll Call:** Neill Robinson, Felicia Salazar, Elsa Reus, Esther Colon, Diana Soto, Suzanne Choopani, Mirelis Castilla, Denise Madan, George Lazo, William Sanchez (Town's Liaison), Clarisell de Cardenas, Town of Miami Lakes.

Order of Business (Deferrals/Additions/Deletions):

Motion by Mirelis to add the allocations of funds to new business. Seconded by Felicia.

Neill welcomed the new member to the CAC, George Lazo. George spoke about his commitment throughout the years to the Town of Miami Lakes. George has been involved in many events at the Town and is happy to be part of this committee.

**Adoption of Minutes:** The minutes of the Cultural Affairs Committee Zoom Meeting on April 23, 2020, to be approved. Motion by Mirelis/Felicia seconded/approved unanimously.

**Old Business:**

- **July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration Entertainment**

William informed the committee that at the last council meeting the Town Manager recommended that we have the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. The firework displays will be at two sites so that people can watch from their homes and there would be no gathering at the parks. There will be no entertainment because of copyright issues it could not be streamed. The fireworks will be live streamed from Graham Lake and Optimist Park. American flags to be displayed around Town on the light posts. Neill asked about the cost of the American flags. William showed the CAC an invoice with two options for flags and the cost. The cost to be paid from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July budget amount allocated of \$11,000. The fireworks will be paid by the Town not from the CAC budget. One of the options on the invoice was for 60 American Flags, installation and brackets total \$8,090.00. There was discussion among the CAC members of what to do and how many poles would be available for the American flags not to include the poles with the Veteran banners and the graduate banners to be displayed. It was mentioned that we would have approximately 25 poles available along 154 Street. Elsa made a motion to purchase 25 American Flags/banners to display along 154 Street on 25 poles at a cost of \$49.50 each flag plus installation and removal not to exceed a total of \$3,000.00. Motion seconded by George – approved unanimously.

- **CAC Virtual Event Proposed Activities**

William stated that the virtual events proposed could not be done due to copyrights. William to recap and display all the past events organized by the CAC. Clarisell mentioned that there is a series of historical lectures on the Town of Miami Lakes. The cost is approximately \$300, and it is narrated by Doctor Paul George and it can be done in late June. Mirelis made a motion to approve/ Diana seconded it/approved unanimously.

- **Paint-a-Picture-for-Mom update**

This event took place on May 9<sup>th</sup>. Neill mentioned that it was a great drive thru event, and everything was well organized. He thanked the owner of Painting with a Twist, Yirka, for her support and sponsorship.

- **Father's Day Fishing Tournament Status Report**

William mentioned that since there could not be a mass gathering this year the CAC could give out a gift to the children of the Town. The gift would be a bucket with the town and CAC logo and inside live bait and measuring tape. The cost of each bucket, \$10 and to order approximately 50 buckets. Motion made by Diana to purchase 50 buckets costing approximately \$500 plus \$79 for decals not to exceed \$600.00. Felicia seconded it and approved unanimously. Motion by Esther to move funds from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event to purchase the buckets/decals, Felicia seconded it /approved unanimously.

- **Concert on the Green update**

Neill mentioned that this event has been put on hold. Neill asked Esther to help reconcile the CAC expenditures and what the CAC has left in their budget. Esther mentioned that we have currently available \$26,427.00 because many of the scheduled events have not taken place. Neill mentioned that the ML Cultural Center "White Paper" document would be addressed by the Town Manager at their next meeting so the public can be informed.

William mentioned that there was an additional cost for the Women of Distinction event since the awards were upgraded this year. Neill mentioned that a total of \$967.62 could be allocated from the Concert on the Green and be transferred to Women of Distinction event. Motion by Esther to transfer \$967.62 from Concert on the Green to Women of Distinction Awards, seconded by Elsa, approved unanimously.

Motion by Esther to allocate \$234.59 from Concert on the Green to Hispanic Heritage Celebration. Seconded by Suzanne and approved unanimously.

Motion by Esther to allocate \$766.39 from Concert on the Green event to Black History Month Event/seconded by Diana/approved unanimously.

- **New Business**

Suzanne asked for a discussion from the CAC members to have recognition, in the form of a peaceful march or a plaque, to protest the murder of George Floyd and to support the Black Lives Matter. Suzanne said it would be best to have a peaceful march but due to covid-19, because of social distancing, that might not be possible. Suzanne said that as a community that we set up an example. Suzanne mentioned that there was an event to celebrate the graduates at the park near main street over the weekend and many people attended. Suzanne wanted to mention this since people are meeting. If not a march, a beautiful plaque to be displayed in Miami Lakes. Suzanne suggested since we have money left over to get a plaque. Esther mentioned that a march must be approved by the Council. If not a march, to order a beautiful plaque to be displayed. Neill said that he would support a peaceful march if possible.

Suzanne made a motion for the CAC to request that the Town approves a peaceful demonstration, in the next 30 days, to support Black Lives Matter and if the march is not approved then a plaque to be made and displayed in Town Hall. Seconded by Mirelis/approved unanimously. (Denise was not present for vote).

Esther asked if we would have to pay for police officers. Neill mentioned that we have funds to cover the police officers and this would be part of the motion. Neill to make the presentation to the council at the next Town zoom meeting on June 16. Neill asked William to notify the Town Clerk and add to the agenda for the council meeting on June 16.

Esther mentioned, under new business, that since June is Pride month to have a pride flag displayed in town. Neill mentioned to display the flag around Town Hall to show support of the LGBT community. Neill mentioned that we would have to purchase a pride flag. Esther recommended to obtain the funds from the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event and contact the same vendor of the American flags. Esther asked if the town had any prominent poles to display the pride flag. William said that he thought the poles might belong to the Graham Companies. Esther made a motion to purchase one Pride flag in celebration of the LGBT gay community and Neill seconded it. Six votes in favor and one vote against from Elsa. (Denise was not present to vote).

**Adjournment:** A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 p.m.