

Community Recreation Advisory Board

Recreation & Cultural Affairs Division

Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2022 5:30 – 6:30pm

Williams School Building, 180 Walnut St, Chelsea, MA

Members; Kevin Sandoval, Chair Alice Murillo, Co-Chair; Vanesa Mendoza-Mercado, Recorder, Mohamed Qasim, Christopher Marroquin

Staff: Alex Delvalle-Montoya, Manager, Omar Miranda, Manager, Bea Cravatta, Director

I. Welcome

II. Approve Minutes of Nov 16, 2021

III. Ways RCA has supported the Pandemic Response

- Two of our managers worked food lines (Omar and Nathalie)
- Processing refunds and credits to participants registered for Spring 2020
- 1,100 community members went through classes from Summer 2020 - Summer 2021
- A majority of classes were free from Summer 2020 - Fall/Winter 2021 thanks to reserves
- Diligent work to provide outside space for leagues while following Covid protocols
- Veronica provided the city with graphics for flyers on how to stay safe
- Heritage grant that led to projects across the city (murals and other forms of art)
- Purchase of chromebooks and hotspots for ESOL, became the chromebook lending program
- Tech goes home - teaching how to use chromebooks virtually
- Partnership with Harvard through Hear Me Out Grant to open up the museums to latin community, targeting teens to become involved
- Staffing shortages has created some barriers in adding new partners for course/instruction

IV. Spring 2022 Programs

- Hired professional photographer Toan Trinh to use photos in our program booklets
- Looking to hire additional ESOL instructors for M-W classes, Enza Goodman working on ESOL curriculum
- Class highlights: Return of Karate through New Energy Martial Arts, how to use chromebooks
- Library has a different tech lending program and we are looking for a person to maintain tech (chromebooks) and the ultimate goal is to hire a community technician.
- Arts and culture coordination group working towards 3 goals based that were highlighted in the strategic plan
 - Funding that supports community growth
 - Organization and processing (where will things be in the community)
 - Programming - how to improve community engagement in programs (getting word out in different ways)
- Community Preservation Act - work being done to allocate funds for city preservation
- Education about healthy eating that can be tailored for Chelsea - can be a series we offer to families for adults or kids. Connect with Healthy Chelsea <https://healthychelsea.org/>
- Will begin summer planning soon

V. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn: 1st: Vanesa Mendoza-Mercado

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 8, 2021 at 5:30 (virtual)

Recorder: Vanesa Mendoza-Mercado

RECEIVED
CITY CLERKS OFFICE
CHELSEA, MA
2023 OCT 20 4 28 PM