CITY OF SIERRA VISTA
COMMISSION ON CULTURAL DIVERSITY
Regular Meeting of July 27, 2015

Oscar Yrun Community Center, Conference Room
3020 E. Tacoma St., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635

CALL TO ORDER

Gail Houston called the meeting of the Commission on Cultural Diversity to order 5:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Shaundra McLemore-Sanders, Sigrid Limtiaco, AJ Biami, Janet Pressler, Gail Houston, Chrysti Lassiter-Jones

MEMBER ABSENT: Frances Micheau

STAFF LIAISON PRESENT: Victoria Yarbrough

COUNCIL LIAISON PRESENT: Gwen Calhoun

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

AJ made a motion to accept the agenda as written.
Shaundra seconded the motion.
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES OF June 23, 2015

AJ made a motion to accept the minutes.
Shaundra seconded the motion.
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

STAFF LIASION'S REPORT

- Victoria let the commission know that Berthe Simpson, one of the original members of the commission passed away last week.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

- Gwen reminded the commission about the Spotlight Breakfast on August 11th and encouraged everyone to attend if possible. She stated that the highlight will be the unveiling of the branding effort and the state of the city report. She told the members about the proposed route changes for Vista Transit. She also informed the commission about a program for disadvantaged business enterprises. Lastly, she told the commission that the budget was passed with a .02% tax increase and repairs to facilities that will total about 35k.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Gail welcomed and thanked everyone.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Economic Development Plan presentation**
   - This has been tabled to our August meeting.
2. **Supporting Oktoberfest with German soldiers on post**
   - Shaundra met with the staff on post that is in charge of this event. It is an event for VIPs. They discussed assisting with the event. Shaundra gave the commission some background information about the event. They have requested that the commission help with selling raffles and invite the West End commission to also participate as well. This would be a good way for the post and the public to know who the commission is and what they do. The event is scheduled for September 18th from 7 – 11. AJ questioned why the commission should participate and feels that they should do more things in the city. Gwen thinks that building a bridge between us and the fort is a great idea. Gail motioned that the commission assist with the event as needed. Janet seconded the motion. 5 in favor / 1 opposed. Motion carries.
3. **Discussion about participating in a Native American Event with the West End Commisison in late fall (November)**
   - Rosi was saying that the commission wanted to do a 2nd event. They were thinking possibly in November to coincide with the post Native American event. There was a suggestion that possibly the library could create a display highlighting Native American month.
4. **Discussion of specific duties of each commissioner**
   - During the subcommittee meeting there was discussion about the specific duties and responsibilities of each commissioner. For example one person could be in charge of media relations and another grant research. There was a brief discussion of how this would help the commission. AJ felt that there should be a specific goal in mind when assigning each member with a task – like the Heritage Fair. Shaundra stated that she feels it would be beneficial if we had tasks assigned all the time and that flexibility is very important. Chrysti asked if anyone wanted to be in charge of this – no one volunteered. The final consensus was that the members take it slow for now.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Diversity Subcommittee report**
   - Shaundra stated that they met on July 6th and spoke about duties and descriptions and they types of things that the members would like to be involved in. There was a discussion on the details of the meeting and Shaundra will have notes available to the members. One point they did feel was important was to include the library in the events by organizing books or a small display for events.
2. **Heritage Fair Updates**
   - There is nothing to report at this time

3. **Partnerships with other commissions updates**
    - Gail went through her list of the members and which other commission meeting they will be attending. Janet will attend Arts and Humanities, Gail will attend CODI, Fran will be attending the Library and the Tourism meetings. AJ will attend Parks and Rec and Chrysti will attend the Museum/Historical Society. Shaundra has attended the West End commission meeting and reported that they are looking into doing West End clean up days. Sigrid attended the Sister Cities commission meeting and reported that they are beginning planning the exchange trip and will be having their annual fundraiser during the SV Oktoberfest in VMP.
4. **Look at mission statement and develop goals for accomplishment**
    - Chrysti feels that the mission statement is very vague. She questioned why we do what we do and how do we accomplish that. She thinks that if each member could think about those 2 questions and come back to a later meeting with some ideas we could have more clarity. The was a brief discussion and the members felt that even though this is all new territory, they are heading in the right direction.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- There wasn't any public present at this month's meeting

CALL TO THE COMMISSION

- AJ told the commissioners the details for Berthe Simpson's funeral and viewing.
- Janet told the members that she attended the open meeting law training with Jill and really learned a lot. She encouraged everyone to attend the next one.
- Sigrid apologized for being late.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30p.m.

Gail Houston
Chairperson, Commission on Cultural Diversity