

NAUGATUCK CULTURAL COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting of Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Naugatuck High School Resource Center

Attendees: Chair Ralph Roper, Co-Vice Chair Indira Reyes, Syed Arshad, Troy Bond, Ed Carter, Anne Marie Chuckrey, Jeannette Deschesnes, Felipe Flores, Lisa Ghodanura, Melanie Griffin, Father Charles Hagearty, Sandra Heller, Pastor Steven Kim, Mary Johnson, Bob Mezzo, Shwela Patel, Mayor Joan B. Taf, Anne Vaz, Evan Vaz, James Vaz, Vanessa Vowe, Les Williams, Len Yannielli, Shagufta Zahid,

Press: Patrick Scalisi – Naugatuck.Patch.com

The following matters were discussed:

- Pledge of Allegiance and welcoming of new members;
- Unanimous approval of minutes from February 16, 2011, meeting - Motion by Jeannette Deschesnes; Second (2nd) by Mayor Joan B. Taf;
- Report from Naugatuck High School World Language Department Chair Anne Marie Chuckrey regarding International Cultural Heritage Night planned for Thursday, March 24, 2011, at Naugatuck High School, including an extensive list of activities and performances.
- Discussion regarding celebrations including African American Mayor for the Day, Saint Patrick's Day, Earth Day 2011 – April 22, 2011, Connecticut Trails Day – June 4, 2011 “Telling our Stories”.
- Discussion regarding Naugatuck Cultural Council Holiday List (draft)
- Report on multicultural map for Town Hall linking Naugatuck with countries/regions of origin.
- Discussion regarding need for increased focus on subcommittee initiatives.
- Cultural Council webpage on Borough website (www.naugatuck-ct.gov) and Facebook group (http://www.facebook.com/home.php?sk=group_139908722727459&ap=1).
- Discussion regarding 2010 Census Data.
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The following ACTION ITEMS emanating from the meeting:

- Promotion of International Cultural Heritage Night and coordination with Naugatuck High School through Events Subcommittee Chair Troy Bond (Committee and Troy Bond).
Volunteers may be needed that evening to help serve food.
In addition, members to notify Ms. Chuckney in advance of any organization that will be presenting and/or in need of table for artifacts, resources, etc. (Committee)
- Troy Bond to serve as the representative from the Cultural Council at the International Cultural Heritage Night. Ms. Chuckney will need to be notified as soon as possible, not later than March 18, 2011. (Troy Bond/Ed Carter).
- Disseminate a sign-up sheet for volunteers to participate in Connecticut Trails Day – June 4, 2011, Gunntown Passive Park and Nature Preserve “Telling Our Stories. (Len Yannielli)

- Add members' respective links on the Naugatuck Cultural Map is installed at the Town Hall (Committee).
- Create a "traveling" map that rotates through the schools so students throughout the Borough can participate. (Ed Carter / Bob Mezzo).
- Promotion of future celebrations: Earth Day 2011 – Thursday, April 21, 2011; Connecticut Trails Day – June 4, 2011, Gunntown Passive Park and Nature Preserve
- Post Crisis in Japan article on the Cultural Council website, and attempt to submit letter to Editor of the Patch regarding publishing the same information on behalf of the Cultural Council (Jeannette Deschesnes/Syed Zahid Arshad and Shagufta Zahid).
- Further discuss Cultural Holiday List at next meeting (see attached). (Jeannette Deschesnes and Committee).
- Bring samples of a potential Council logo to the next Council meeting (Maria Fidalgo).
- Discuss ideas for future subcommittees as well as the work of existing subcommittees. (Troy Bond, Marya DiPerna, Mary Johnson, Indira Reyes and Len Yannielli in coordination with Ed Carter, Bob Mezzo and Committee). Ideas to be presented at next meeting).

NEXT MEETING – WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2011, 6:00 PM
NAUGATUCK HIGH SCHOOL RESOURCE CENTER

Respectfully submitted,



Robert A. Mezzo