

5/25/2023 | 4:00 PM

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES CENTER, LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM
3600 TREMONT ROAD**

The Community Relations Committee welcomes comments from the public at the close of each meeting. For Zoom attendees: the Chair will ask them to raise their hand in Zoom if they wish to speak and the meeting organizer will admit them as a meeting participant. Please note – any comments added to the Zoom chat feature will not be incorporated into the meeting minutes. If you are joining through Zoom, please click the link below to join the meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/86194811809>

Meeting ID: 861 9481 1809

Passcode: 324767

Join by phone: 877-853-5257 or 312-626-6799

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - a. Approve April 27, 2023 Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes
- 3. City Manager Updates- Steve Schoeny**
 - a. CRC application process update
- 4. Haitian Heritage Month - JP Dorval**
- 5. Opportunities/Programming Updates**
 - a. St. Mark's Culture & Artisans Fair recap
 - b. Undesign the Redline exhibit and June 1 opening reception
 - c. UA Pride event update
 - d. Plans for Juneteenth
 - e. CRC presence at Summer Events
 - f. 2023 Educational Presentation Topics
 - g. "Welcome Wagon" program update
- 6. Liaison Updates**
- 7. Community Questions & Public Comment**

8. **Adjournment (a tour of the Police Division offices will follow the close of the meeting)**

DRAFT
April 27, 2023 | 4 pm

Members Present

Jason Sayat, Co-Chair	Farida El-Hennawy	Hana Abdelbaki
JP Dorval	Howard Warner	

City Staff & Others Present

Steve Schoeny, City Manager	Maggie Rochon, Communications Specialist	Jodi Osborne, Cultural Arts Manager
Airrell Jackson, HR Recruitment & DEI Coordinator	Abby Cochran, Human Relations Director	

1. Welcome / Approval of February 23, 2023 Minutes

Co-Chair El-Hennawy asked for approval of the February 23 Meeting Minutes.

Motion: Howard Warner

Second: Jason Sayat Minutes Approved

2. City Manager Updates – Steve Schoeny

- Two new members of Staff were introduced:
 - o Maggie Rochon has joined Community Affairs as a Communications Specialist, and will be assisting with social media, Parks & Rec programming, internal communications and the CRC;
 - o Airrell Jackson is the new Human Resources Recruitment and DEI Coordinator, and will also be assisting with some CRC functions.
- The City held its Bob Crane Community Center groundbreaking on April 17. This facility will become the key location for community gatherings and welcoming activities.
- Thanks to the efforts of Jason Sayat and others, the community's first Cherry Blossom Celebration worked well and shows what can be accomplished when motivated groups are connected to work together.
- Two of the City's 2022 Community Awards were presented to community members in the DEI space: The Youth Award was presented to the AAPI Student Organization at the High School; and the Community Relations Award was presented to Reita Smith, who has been working for many years to make sure Central Ohio history includes black history, including participating on the UA committee working to honor and tell the story of Pleasant Litchford.



- Two resignations from the CRC have been received. Judy Kase indicated she's struggling to keep up due to other commitments. Siema Eljack is facing similar challenges and still has family in Sudan, so this is a tough time for her, and she has decided to resign. The call for applications is out to fill these openings, with a deadline of May 8. CRC members are encouraged to help spread the word.
- Sergeant McKean has been able to refocus on the Police 101 training, and should have a schedule together soon.

3. **Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month** – Karen Jiobu, Jason Sayat

- Jason Sayat shared that May is AAPI Heritage Month and provided some insight on the first Cherry Blossom Celebration at the Mallway on April 3. The event was made possible thanks to the efforts of the CRC, the High School AAPI Student Organization, Asian American Community Services (AACS) and Cover to Cover Books. It is hoped that this will become an annual event.
- Jason then introduced Karen Jiobu, who is the former Director for AACS, currently serving on their board. She also is involved in the Columbus Asian Festival, and helped with UA's first Cherry Blossom Celebration
- Karen shared a documentary on the Japanese internment camps of the Second World War, "Children of the Camps: A Documentary & Educational Project" from the Center for Asian American Media (<https://www.children-of-the-camps.org/>). She also shared a presentation on her personal experiences.

4. **UA Rotary Club Peace Poles** – Dave Dewey (Upper Arlington Rotary)

- Dave Dewey is representing both the Upper Arlington Rotary and Tri-Village Rotary on a joint project to install Peace Poles at a UA School location and a City location, and at similar locations in Grandview. Rotary is a global organization united to create lasting change in communities. Their 7th tenant is to promote peace. Essentially a peace pole is a beginning, "May peace prevail on earth" comes in different languages and could be a frontrunner to sponsoring a peace seminar or event in the future. The City Peace Pole will have the following messages:
 - o May Peace Prevail on Earth – in English, Arabic, Mandarin, Korean, Spanish, Braille
 - o May Peace Prevail in Our Community – in English
 - o An opportunity for two additional messages from the following options:
 - May Peace Prevail in Our Homes
 - May Peace Prevail in Our Hearts
 - May Peace Prevail in Our Schools
- There will be a follow up e-mail to see which of the option are preferred by members and details of an installation ceremony will follow once the Peace Pole is completed.

5. **Opportunities/Programming Updates**

- The latest version of the 2023 Educational Presentation Topics was shared with the group.
- Plans for Juneteenth are in the early stages, to be held on the MSC Plaza again.
- Litchford Park update – the UA Schools are still working on finalizing content for interpretive signs to be installed at the park on the High School property.



- CRC presence at Summer Events – a schedule for upcoming events was shared with members, and they were asked to start signing up for slots. Most pressing is the St. Mark's Culture and Artisans Fair on May 6.
- Undesign the Redline exhibit – members were reminded that this exhibit is coming to UA for the month of June, created by YWCA of Columbus. Staff is working on an opening event that will include a video explaining the origins of the exhibit, and Liz Brown, Chief Executive Office at the YWCA will also speak. There will be a training for Staff on how to walk people through the exhibit. Staff and the UA Historical Society are also working on information guiding property owners on how to research and update their property deeds.
- "Welcome Wagon" program update – Jason shared that he's making progress working with various organizations to build a series of events or welcoming components led by different entities.

6. Community Questions/Public Comment

- None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm

CHAIR:

ATTEST:



City of Upper Arlington

2023 Community Events
CRC Participation Schedule
Updated May 23, 2023

Note: Where start/end timeslots are earlier/later than the event hours, the CRC members would be asked to assist with setup and breakdown.

St. Mark's Culture and Artisan Fair

10 am-3 pm, Saturday, May 6

9:30 am-12:30 pm Hana Abdelbaki
12:30-3:30 pm Deborah Carvalho

Howard Warner
Farida El-Hennawy

Spring Fling

11 am-2 pm, Saturday, May 20

10:30 am-12:30 pm Brent Theaker
12:30-2:30 pm _____

Deborah Carvalho
Hana Abdelbaki

UA Performance Series – Party on the Plaza

6-11 pm, Thursday, June 8

Municipal Services Center

Includes Undesign the Redline exhibit inside

6-8 pm Deborah Carvalho
8-10 pm _____

UA Pride

1-5 pm, Saturday, June 11

12:30-3 pm _____
3-5:30 pm _____

UA Performance Series – Music at Miller

6-9 pm, Thursday, June 22

Miller Park

6-7:30 pm Deborah Carvalho
7:30-9 pm _____

UA Performance Series – Arts on Arlington

6-10 pm, Thursday, July 13

Mallway Park/Arlington Avenue

6-8 pm Deborah Carvalho
8-10 pm Brent Theaker

Summer Celebration

6-9 pm, Thursday, July 20

Thompson Park

5:30-7:30 pm

7:30-9:30 pm Brent Theaker

Labor Day Arts Festival

10 am-6 pm, Monday, September 4

Northam Park Area

9:30 am-12:30 pm Deborah Carvalho

12:30-3:30 pm Brent Theaker

3:30-6:30 pm

UA Performance Series – Songwriter Social

6-9 pm, Thursday, October 19

Amelita Mirolo Barn, Sunny 95 Park

6-7:30 pm Deborah Carvalho

7-9 pm

Farmers Market

3-6 pm, Wednesdays starting May 17

Part of City departments/community booth participant schedule

Dates to pick from:

- May 17, 24, 31
- June 7, 14, 21, 28
- July 5, 12, 19, 26
- August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
- September 6, 13, 20, 27
- October 4, 11, 18, 25

Community Relations Committee Speakers/Education Topics

Updated May 22, 2023

2023

To be assigned/ideas:

- Northwest Kiwanis (Howard)
- Reflections on what they have learned from CRC members
- MORPC – explore topic options
- TASO – Turkish American Society of Ohio
- ASHA Ray of Hope – Established by South Asian Community, provides support to women in crises (Cultural socialization, recent immigration, loss of traditional family support, lack of English language, and unfamiliarity with laws and services)
- American Legion – Veterans
- JASCO – Japan America Society of Central Ohio
- Federation of Asian Indian Associations
- Women’s Fund of Central Ohio (March - Women’s History Month)
- Ohio Hispanic Coalition
- Columbus Realist Association - to enhance the professional and business conditions of NAREB® Realist® members by strengthening the consumer capacity of Black, minority, and emerging target market segments that Realists® serve. And by promoting the real estate industry in general, utilizing economic, political, legal, and social leverage to remediate disparate and discriminatory housing and property ownership policies and practices prevailing in the United States.
- YWCA/YMCA
- Central Ohio African American Chamber of Commerce
- Poindexter Museum – comes online in 2025

MONTH	PRESENTER	TOPIC/ORGANIZER
January	Jodi Osborne	Parks & Rec/Cultural Arts Events Calendar
April	Karen Jiobu	Asian American Community Services
May	Haitian Heritage Month	JP Dorval
June	UA Library	Beth Hatch
July	_____	PROPOSED – UAPD National Night Out (Aug 1)
August	National Hispanic Heritage Month? Sept 15-Oct 15	PROPOSED – Ohio Hispanic Coalition/other?
September	Sarah Brown Ohio Hispanic Coalition	National Hispanic Heritage Month (coordination help – Hana)
October	_____	PROPOSED – National Disability Employment Awareness Month; Northwest Kiwanis soccer programs for people with disabilities (coordination help – Brent & Howard)
November	_____	PROPOSED – Veterans Services

2022

MONTH	PRESENTER	TOPIC/ORGANIZER
April	Farida El-Hennawy	Ramadan
May	Jaron Terry, Columbus PFLAG RAMA Consulting	PRIDE UA Perception Assessment findings
June	Joe Henderson	Economic Development
July	Debbie McLaughlin	Parks & Recreation Department Update
August	Jennifer Segal, UA Commission on Aging Abbey Hamilton, UA Village Service Coordinator Christine Leyshon, UA CARES Program	Senior programs and services overview
September	Orie Kristel, Illuminology Steve Schoeny	2022 Community Survey results
October	Hana Abdelbaki Layla Banaie	US Together: Refugee resettlement
November	Larysa Gilbert, Syntero Teresa Wasserstrom, Syntero Sergeant Bryan McKean Darren Shulman, City Attorney	About Syntero/mental health discussion (Deborah and Siema to help coordinate) Police Discussion Items - Community Policing Program Update - Police stops with racial conflict Enhancements to Mayors Court

2021

MONTH	PRESENTER	TOPIC/ORGANIZER
January	Various	Pleasant Litchford history & recognition
April	Jason Sayat	Structural racism in healthcare
July	Various	2020 Police Annual Report & Bias-Based Policing Review
October	Carly Rothgeb, UAHS senior	Ambassadors of Change program