

Meeting Minutes August 26, 2020 by Webex Remote Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 9:00

Roll Call:

Present: Chairwoman Deepa Mangalat, Jessica Ayala, Eric Drouart, Nonyem Egbonu, Jennifer Hosking, Donna Marceau, Bernadette Plante, Adelina Reyes, Lauren Osowski, Cecilia Ulibarri, Sandra Pratt, and Elizabeth Lu.

Also present were Shanta Bist and Liz Fitzgerald.

A motion was made by Eric Drouart to accept the minutes of the meeting of June 24, 2020. The motion was seconded by Sandra Pratt.

Deepa Mangalat informed the group that there is a Memorial Service planned to commemorate Sylvia Gale. It will be held at the Greeley Park Gazebo on September 6th at 10:30 a.m.

Deepa also reminded the group that September 12-20 is Welcome Week in Nashua and all 'Welcoming Communities'. This year, Welcoming Week activities have been curtailed, however the group is soliciting recipes that highlight their ethnic roots from residents of Welcoming Cities throughout NH. All are invited to contribute to this celebratory publication by uploading recipes before mid-September at <https://welcomingnh.org/creating-a-cookbook/>

Communications:

Liz Fitzgerald presented on a grant funded program that will serve four year olds. The 'Waterford Upstart Program' will provide a tablet and home wi-fi to low income families to allow access to 15 minutes per day programming incorporating reading, math, and science. Elements of the program also help guide parents into a teaching role. There are 220 slots available in this program. Nonnie Egbonu suggested that outreach efforts for programs such as these should take into consideration that we have a sizable number of Swahili speaking resident in our community.

Also mentioned is a 'TECH Pantry' run by Bob Cioppa to serve 185 area students having poor access to wi-fi.

Jessica Ayala gave an update from Public Health regarding changes stemming from the department's move to 142 Main Street during the rehab of their Mulberry Street facility. They have attained a 'very good' immunization rate over the summer by holding drive-thru clinics at some schools, and have another clinic scheduled for families in September.. Due to the move, and also Covid-19, clinics for testing for HIV and STDs, and for providing immunizations are all continuing via a mobile van at the Nashua Public Library parking lot every Wednesday per month except the last Wednesdays from 10-12a.m..

Donna Marceau also provided current hours for meals and food pickup at the Soup Kitchen

Lauren Osowski reported that the Adult Learning Center will begin classes on September 28th and they are fully online this fall.

Jenn Hosking provided an update on activities at the Nashua Public Library. She reported a recent outreach effort was conducted to solicit feedback on "What should be the next level of service". She also said that the library Youth Service Team is working on a remote learning support plan.

Deepa Mangalat called for nominations for Vice-Chair for this committee.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 10:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Lu, Secretary