

Town of Matthews
Cultural Diversity Committee February 2019 Minutes

The February Cultural Diversity Committee was held on February 26, 2019 at 7:00 pm in the Jordan Room of the Matthews Town Hall.

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Chairwoman Natisha Patrick. Committee members present included Bob Hughes, Nikki Keith, Angela Lee and Chuck Wilson. Guests included Marie-Michele Dary with Matthews Playhouse and citizen Mark Tofano.

Guest Speaker Marie-Michele Darcy, Administrative Manager with Matthews Playhouse shared an overview of Matthews Playhouse with an emphasis on recent diversity and inclusion efforts such as the recent performance of "Sweet Jenn" in celebration of Black History Month.

The January minutes were approved.

Chairwoman Patrick led a discussion on a possible partnership with the Matthews Veteran's Advisory Committee to honor Buffalo Soldiers. The committee expressed interest and request more details on specifics of the partnership.

Chairwoman Patrick led a discussion on the 2019 CDC Goals. Items recommended for consideration in 2019 included:

- Linkage to what is going on in Matthews (i.e. Matthews Heritage Museum, Matthews Playhouse)
- Continued recruitment of speakers of interest to the community
- On the Table Clt
- Implementation of a 90 min-2 hr strategic planning session
- Matthews Inclusive playground
- Open to All Campaign

In other business, Bob Hughes shared that the Buddy Walk is April 6. Bob also shared that he would write a letter to the Board of Directors of Matthews Playhouse to thank for the recent performance of "Sweet Jenn".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Mission: The role of the Cultural Diversity Committee (CDC) is to foster a climate of mutual respect among the many diverse groups and communities in Matthews; improve communications between these groups and communities and the Town government and leaders; to offer input to Town and community issues; and to encourage discussion of differing viewpoints to promote an understanding in a multicultural environment and increase Matthews' capacity to become a more culturally competent organization and community. The CDC may also become involved in other tasks as requested by the Board of Commissioners or Town staff and additional subcommittees or task forces may be created as needed.