

Mission: *The role of the Cultural Diversity Council (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.*

Minutes
CULTURAL DIVERSITY COMMITTEE
JORDAN ROOM, MATTHEWS TOWN HALL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2017 – 7:00 PM

CDC Chair Matthew French called the meeting to order. Attendees included Hazen Blodgett—Town of Matthews; Members—Angela Lee, Becky Thompson, Matthew French, Nikki Keith, Jermaine Milledge, Sarah Milledge, Chuck Wilson, Bob Hughes and guest speaker Sima Shapiro.

Guest Speaker Sima Shapiro addressed the group to share her thoughts/concern regarding no community representation for Hanukkah. Shapiro has recently moved to Matthews from Connecticut. She shared that a visual representation of Hanukkah such as décor with blue and silver at the library or town hall would be appropriate.

The committee had a robust discussion on how to best consider various holiday traditions. Hazen reminded the committee the committee that we can support this effort but to remember that the town should not have overtly religious symbols.

Next the committee discussed the CDC Action Plan. Angela will create a draft plan for the Jan. meeting that the committee can edit.

Chuck extended an invitation for Tues., Feb. 20—Christian Communities are hosting 4th session on racial bridge building at 7pm at Matthews UMC.

There will be a business expo on Tuesday Feb. 27 at CPCC Levine Campus. It was recommended that the council visit to promote the CDC.

It was shared that the Matthews MLK, Jr. observance will be on Jan. 14 at 2pm at Mt. Moriah Church. At 3pm there will be a March to Town Hall. There will be a commemorative worship Service and Breakfast at 10 at Mt. Moriah Church.

The meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting Jan. 23, 2017 at 7:00pm