



**Roll Call Vote on the Approval of Minutes of 02/19/2020 Meeting**

<b><u>Commissioner</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Abstain</u></b>
Councilor Matt Gerding	X		
Councilor Nancy Cameron			X
Celeste Feren	X		
Jenne Holmes	X		
Maureen Jackman	X		
Arlene Jones	X		
Councilor Rich Michaud	X		
Pius Charles Murray,			X

The Chair announced that the minutes of the 02/19/2020 meeting were approved by a majority vote (6-0-2).

**III. Old Business:**

**A. Discussion of Indigenous People's Day**

The discussion considered changing the observation of Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day.

The Chair opened the discussion by stating that Columbus Day is not an official city holiday. Only by contract does the Somersworth Fire Fighters Union observe the holiday which is observed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in October.

The point of the discussion was to debate whether or not to draft a resolution to ask the New Hampshire State Legislature to change Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day.

There was considerable discussion. Councilor Michaud remarked that Indigenous People's Day underscores the values held by the people of the United States, an immigrant nation. Ms. Jackman stated that Indigenous People's Day refers to all people in the US. The need to acknowledge the contributions of indigenous peoples to the culture of the United States is well overdue.

The consensus of the Cultural Commission was that additional research and discussion would be needed.

**B. Indonesian Cultural Representation of Channel 22**

Ms. Raychel, President of the Indonesian Community Connect [ICC] Board of Directors asked the Cultural Commission to assist in raising the visibility of Indonesian culture in the city of Somersworth. The Cultural Commission agreed with that idea given that the Indonesian community represents almost one-third of Somersworth's population.

The Cultural Commission discussed the following ideas for potential broadcast on Channel 22 and/or Channel 95:

- (1.) Bi-lingual television program perhaps using the Library, the Somersworth Historical Museum, and online broadcast.
- (2.) An Indonesian Cooking Show if 15-20 minutes duration
- (3.) Traditional Dance performance – usually performed at Indonesian cultural festivities
- (4.) Clips of the Indonesian language

Councilor Michaud applauded Ms. Raychel's presentation. Ms. Jackman recommended that the Cultural Commission reach out to City Manager Belmore.

Motion to co-sponsor a request to Channels 22 and 95 to broadcast programs emphasizing the Indonesian Community's cultural values and community contributions was made by Mr. Murray and seconded by Ms. Feren.

**Roll Call Vote to Ask Channels 22 and 95 to broadcast some Indonesian programming**

<b><u>Commissioner</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Abstain</u></b>
Councilor Matt Gerding	X		
Councilor Nancy Cameron			X
Celeste Feren	X		
Jenne Holmes	X		
Maureen Jackman	X		
Arlene Jones	X		
Councilor Rich Michaud	X		
Pius Charles Murray,	X		

The Chair announced that the motion to request community broadcasting of some Indonesian programming was adopted by majority vote (7-0-1).

**C. Discussion of Cultural Banners for Somersworth's Downtown**

- a. Flags to be ordered, size, cultural depictions, *etc*,

The Chair described the issues needing to be discussed regarding the use of additional cultural banners in downtown Somersworth (cultural and linguistic barriers; money to fund their purchase; where and when to fly the banners).

There was considerable discussion. Ms. Holmes offered the city's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary flag design as a place to begin. Furthermore, if the Cultural Commission doesn't want to use the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary flag design, Ms. Holmes described the process by which that design was agreed upon through a competition in the Somersworth schools. Ms. Jackman mentioned the difficulty of having different languages on different flags. Ms. Raychel mentioned that the Indonesian Community has a professional designer whom she could get to assist the Cultural Commission in designing the flags; the Cultural

Commission was open to the offer. Ms. Jackman asked if a walk through of downtown could be done soon before making any further decisions.

b. Placement

Ms. Jackman requested a walk through of the downtown area before making any further decisions. The consensus of the Commission was that the walk through is a good idea. The Chair said that he would soon schedule a walk through and let the Commissioners know.

**IV. New Business**

No New business.

**V. Other Business/Micellaneous**

- (1.) The Chair stated that the Commission's Mission Statement still hadn't been finalized. The Chair said that he would send to the Commissioners examples of Cultural Commission mission statements; he would like to have a discussion at the next meeting.
- (2.) Mr. Murray asked about the status of the baseball tickets which in 2021 would not have used for two years. The Chair stated that he would investigate and report back.

**VI. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next meeting of the Cultural Commission was scheduled for 7 February 2021 at 4:30pm.

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 5:15 pm was made by Councilor Michaud and seconded by Ms. Holmes.

**Roll Call Vote to Adjourn**

<b><u>Commissioner</u></b>	<b><u>Yes</u></b>	<b><u>No</u></b>	<b><u>Abstain</u></b>
Councilor Matt Gerding	X		
Councilor Nancy Cameron			X
Celeste Feren	X		
Jenne Holmes	X		
Maureen Jackman	X		
Arlene Jones	X		
Councilor Rich Michaud	X		
Pius Charles Murray,	X		

The Chair announced that the motion to adjourn was adopted by a majority vote (7-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,

*Pius Charles Murray*

(Mr.) Pius Charles Murray, MLS, MPA

