

AGENDA
CULTURAL RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, November 10, 2011 – 7:00 PM
Dodge City Public Library

PLEASE WEAR YOUR GREEN T-SHIRTS
AS WE PLAN TO TAKE A GROUP PICTURE

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of October 13, 2011 meeting

OLD BUSINESS

1. Meeting day/time and attendance.
2. Review of draft newspaper article – need suggestions

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion of application for “Building Common Ground” grant through the American Library Association and the Fetzer Institute. Report by Cathy Reeves, Director of the Public Library.
2. Discussion of USCIS to begin a Mobile Service to Southwest Kansas.
3. Discussion of organizing a Kansas Day event.
4. Presentation from USCIS at Public Library on December 6 @ 5:00 pm

COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES
CULTURAL RELATIONS ADVISORY BOPARD
Thursday, October 13, 2011 – 7 pm
Dodge City Public Library – 1001 First Avenue

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Greta Clark.

Board Members present: Greta Clark, Debra Muylaert, Oliver Bland, Elva Dominguez. Absent were Cassie Maydon, Nicole Noble, Robert Vinton, and Chamber representative, Jane Longmeyer, staff representative from the City of Dodge City was also absent. Mohammad Abdurahman of SRS was present. Nancy Calderon, Associate Editor of LaEstrella/Daily Globe attended.

On a motion by Elva, seconded by Oliver, the minutes of the September 8th meeting were approved by consensus.

Old Business:

1. The Focus Group meeting will be held on Oct. 19, 2011, in the Lois Flanagan room at noon. The members present indicated that they would attend.
2. A newspaper feature article to introduce the Board will follow the November 10th meeting. The Board photo will be taken on Nov. 10, 2011, at the regularly scheduled meeting. Members should wear their T-shirts.

New Business:

1. Oliver Bland reported on the Sept. 14th Thurow Park meeting at Miller School. He reported that the East Side Organization, chaired by Melanie Gillen, raised \$4,200.00 and that the city indicated that they would match those funds. The Cultural Relations Board members declared interest to support the organizations efforts to improve that park as it is consistently used and should be a safe and well kept park. Oliver will verify the next Miller School meeting date and will communicate it to our members so that we can participate.
2. It was decided that our Board should address the issue our meetings experiencing low attendance.
3. November 6, 2011, RSVP will direct a community work day. The DCCC Baseball team volunteers and Oliver and Greta indicated that they would try to help. Sheila Grayson will be speaking to the DCCC

ESL classes on volunteerism, so perhaps additional volunteers will be recruited to help.

4. Mohammad commented that the Board could invite non-mainstream guests to the meetings to share their purposes so we could get to better know, and be known, within our community.

Debra reported on the Oct. 13th, Diversity Breakfast in Garden City. Jane, Deb, Elva, and Oliver attended. Mohammad was also there. It was a well attended (around 200 people) and interesting event. The question arose and discussion was held without a decision if we could host a similar type of activity in DC. Discussion that the time of day could be changed from breakfast to lunch to evening events in hopes of including different community people followed.

Elva reported on the El Día de La Mujer. It has taken place for six years and evolved during that time. It is held at Our Lady of Guadalupe and focuses on Hispanic Women's health and well being. Discussion continued that perhaps our Board could attach a larger community event to this, or another similar event, in order to help expand our focus and projects.

Ideas for the newspaper article were listed.

On a motion by Elva, seconded by Oliver, the meeting was adjourned by consensus.



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- [Programming Resources](#)
- [Video Galleries](#)
- [Training](#)

- [Apply for a Grant](#)

Apply for *Building Common Ground*

Building Common Ground: Discussions of Community, Civility and Compassion is a collaboration between the [American Library Association](#) and the [Fetzer Institute](#). The library programs associated with Building Common Ground are funded by a grant from the Fetzer Institute to the American Library Association.

- To begin, visit our [registration page](#) to create a profile and begin your application.
- If you have already registered, visit the [login page](#) to sign in and continue working.
- If you've forgotten your password, visit the [password reset page](#) to reset it.

Goals

The goal of the Building Common Ground: Discussions of Community, Civility and Compassion project is to engage the public in contemplation and discussion of the importance of community, civility and compassion in their daily lives. By bringing adult audiences together for programs and events that include reading, viewing, reflection, discussion and civic engagement initiatives, public libraries will enhance the quality of life and learning in their communities.

Reflection • Engagement • Action

The programming resources developed and brought together for this initiative represent a wide array of media, content and format. They have been selected because of their connection with the themes of Community, Civility, and Compassion. Building on the content of the suggested programming templates are three different approaches to programming: REFLECTION, ENGAGEMENT, ACTION. These approaches have been developed to link programs to audience outcomes. For example, by participating in a screening of *Forgiveness* and the following discussion series, audiences will reflect on the themes of compassion, civility and community in the film; by attending a library-

sponsored service fair, patrons will be invited to take action in their communities; by coordinating a Common Ground Tour, libraries will engage patrons in discussions of collective memory and sites of significance to the community.

Grants to Libraries

Thirty public libraries will be awarded \$2,500 grants nationally. Participating libraries will identify local issues that might be informed and illuminated by discussions of community, compassion, civility and use those issues as the impetus for assembling multi-format program series. By assembling a multi-format series of 4-8 programs, issues of local significance will be discussed through the lenses of community, compassion or civility. Building Common Ground participants will discover the opportunity to reflect on content, engage with issues through discussion, and learn of opportunities to take action on behalf of their communities.

Libraries will be required to collaborate with at least one community organization with a scope of activity and interest in the same issues identified for the program series. All speakers and presenters must be confirmed at the time of proposal submission. Proposals without complete program dates and required attachments will not be considered.

For more information on this program, or if you have any difficulties with the application, please contact the ALA Public Programs Office at 312.280.5045, or publicprograms@ala.org.

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U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

003 - 4 2011

CO 703.2190

The Honorable Pat Roberts
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Roberts:

Thank you again for your letter of March 30, 2011, regarding your request for U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) to survey the need for additional immigration services to the southwest Kansas area.

In response to your request, USCIS recently completed an analysis of receipts from the Liberal, Dodge City, and Garden City areas. In Fiscal Year 2010, we received 577 applications and petitions from this area. This number also includes applications for ancillary immigration benefits, such as applications for employment authorization that are traditionally not adjudicated in field offices. For this reason, there is not enough of a workload to support opening a separate field office in the southwestern region of Kansas.

USCIS recently began piloting a Mobile Services initiative in select areas to bring immigration services to remote and underserved populations throughout the United States. As you discuss in your letter, the Hispanic population has increased in southwest Kansas and we believe that providing Mobile Services to this region would be beneficial to our customers. USCIS will be traveling to southwest Kansas during the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2012 to interview applicants for immigration benefits, to conduct outreach, and to provide informational services. If the initiative is successful, we will consider traveling to this area at regular intervals.

Thank you again for you letter.

Sincerely,

FOR THE DIRECTOR


James W. McCament
Chief

Jane Longmeyer

From: Clark, Greta [GClark@dc3.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2011 1:25 PM
To: Jane Longmeyer
Subject: RE: picture

Should we provide the members contact information?

Should we should invite community members to contact us regarding their questions, observations or needs???

From: Jane Longmeyer [mailto:janelong@dodgecity.org]
Sent: Monday, November 07, 2011 5:05 PM
To: Clark, Greta
Subject: RE: picture

Greta – here is a draft – looking for your ideas, Thanks, Jane

The Dodge City Cultural Relations Advisory Board was created with the adoption of Resolution No. 2010-19 on June 21, 2010. The purpose of the Board is to advise the City Commission related to or affecting minority communities within Dodge City, to monitor the policies and practices of the City of Dodge City to issue fair and equitable application, and to act as a resource for intercultural awareness, education, and celebration among all people.

Early in 2009, refugees from the country of Somalia began to migrate to Dodge City seeking employment. Representatives from numerous agencies began to meet as a Refugee Task Force to gain an understanding of the Somali culture and share resources to provide services as they settled in the community.

The Refugee Task Force did not have a formalized structure at the time so that as agencies resolved their service challenges, the participation commitment was not as strong. However, the community continued to grow in diversity as other cultures came to the area seeking employment.

A representative from the Garden City Cultural Relations Board was invited to speak to the members of the Refugee Task Force. The Task Force then agreed that a formalized Cultural Relations Advisory Board was needed in Dodge City and the resolution was presented to the City Commission for adoption.

The first meeting of the nine-member board was held on August 12, 2010. One of the events hosted by the Board was a neighborhood cleanup in the fall of 2010 in the area that was being considered for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Rehabilitation Program. The Board members participated in the cleanup as well as organized a meeting of residents to discuss their opportunity to apply for the grant program.

The Board also sponsored a luncheon on Kansas Day, January 26th, with a presentation by Mohamed Abdurahman, Regional Refugee Coordinator of the KS Dept. of Social & Rehabilitation Services. His information presentation was titled "From Despair to Hope: How US Generosity is Changing Refugee Lives".

The Cultural Relations Advisory Board is not only supporting and participating in the existing cultural events in the community, but sponsoring events that will help to build an inclusive city.

From: Clark, Greta [mailto:GClark@dc3.edu]

11/9/2011

More Questions & Answers on



Federal Immigration Programs

Chuck Pratt, Community Relations Officer for the US Citizenship & Immigration Services, will answer your immigration questions.

Tuesday, December 6th, 5pm
Dodge City Public Library



1001 N 2nd Ave
Dodge City, KS 67801
620-225-0248
www.dcpl.info

Called to Order Cultural Relations

11-10-11

Present

Greta, Deb, Oliver, Marilyn, Jane

Absent: Robert, Nicole, Cassie

Minutes ~~motion to approved as presented~~ and

Old Business

1. ~~Daytime~~ attendance. Jane will contact Robert, Cassie and Nicole about attendance. Cindy & Erika going to represent on Chamber.

2. Newspaper article.

Community Closing paragraph - open meetings

2nd Thursday, 7:00pm @ Public Library.

* Board members could bring a guest. Oliver will bring in Dec, Marilyn - Jan, Deb - Feb. Greta - March

~~Pictorial~~ ~~Ex~~ Saturday, Nov. 12th, 11:30 @ El Capitan

New Business:

1. Grant - Cathy #2500 - 30 awarded throughout the United States. Partner with Library and Public Cultural Relations Advisory Board. E J

John: ^{ewy} who did he interview from Mexican Village?

2. Invite Martha Mendoza of Sen. Roberts office

3. Kamas Day event: Marilyn - 6-8 grade sponsor a essay contest. Define the number of words!

Presentation at library. Melanie Head High School
of Dear-Up Program. Get prizes from businesses?
1st 2nd & 3rd place while what living
4. Why I Like Kansas, What Living in Kansas
Means To Me.

4. Immigration speaker

Deb invite to Thanksgiving Fellowship Feast
National Guard Armory. 11:00 - 2:00

add who are members

quotes