



Attendees: Alma Sandoval, Hispanic Canadian Alliance of Ontario
 Tanya Taylor, Pickering Public Library
 Sethu Madhavan, Community Appointee
 Viji Madhavan, Guest
 Valerie Mason, Durham Continuing Education
 Chris Gordon, [YOU]nity
 Farley Flex, Durham International Festival
 Cecil Ramnauth, Devi Mandir
 Marisa Carpino, City of Pickering

Absent: Councillor David Pickles, Chair
 Kirk Mark, Community Appointee
 Steve Holt, Community Appointee
 Devinder Panesar, Community Appointee
 Raymond Facey, Community Appointee
 Jason Amos, [YOU]nity
 Margaret Lazarus, Valley Farm Public School
 Philip Howard, Durham District School Board
 Sylvie Morel-Foster, Durham Catholic District School Board

| Item / Ref # | Details & Discussion & Conclusion <i>(summary of discussion)</i> | Action Items / Status <i>(include deadline as appropriate)</i> |
|---------------------|---|--|
| 1. | Welcome | |
| | Marisa Carpino welcomed attendees and introductions were made. Marisa Carpino thanked Devi Mandir President Amar Binda and Cecil Ramnauth for hosting the committee's December 2009 meeting. A. Binda provided an overview of Devi Mandir and their activities. | |
| 2. | Tour of Devi Mandir | |
| | Vishnu conducted a tour of Devi Mandir with those in attendance. | |
| 3. | Review & Approval of Agenda & Minutes | |
| | M. Carpino reviewed action items of the November 5, 2009 minutes. Alma recommends the term "Hispanic Heritage Month" for the committee's proclamation in April 2010. It is consistent with the terminology of other municipalities & organizations. | M. Carpino to action |

| 4. | Durham International Festival | |
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| | <p>Farley Flex provided an overview of the Durham International Festival (DIF).</p> <p>DIF is not for profit. DI Management is managing the Festival. Their mandate is to be geographically and ethno-culturally inclusive. They want to engage all communities in the Region via ethno cultural groups, BIA's, both School Boards and municipal representatives. To make the DIF an impactful tourism event they want to implement four initiatives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Snow Angels: want to break the Guinness World Record in February 2010 by having the most people make snow angels. Event will be filmed and promoted through the media and will bring recognition to the Region. On line registration will calculate total participant numbers. 2. May Days: feature a Business focused initiative each week in May 2010 (sale, craft show etc.) 3. DIF Festival: Festival on July 16-18, 2010 at Lakeview Park in Oshawa (still to be confirmed with Oshawa). Location would rotate between municipalities each year. Event would feature cultural activities (dance, dress, music, food, story telling etc.) and include vendors. Daytime activities will include a replica of a World Cup soccer game (coed under 12 years), Cricket Match between boys Sri Lanka national team with Durham Cricket Association. CDCD is partnering with DI Management to complete grant applications. 4. Durham Region Idol: another level of the competition in 2010 <p>F. Flex is asking the committee for :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To have a presence at the event. For example, a committee representative can introduce performers and talk about the committee and what they do 2. Provide materials on the committee that can be provided to participants at the event so they leave with information 3. Having a committee representative on the DIF Advisory Board what will start in the new year and meet monthly, then quarterly in subsequent years. 4. Provide good news stories that can be included on the DIF website <p>Marisa advised that his request would be discussed at the committee's January meeting and she would advise him accordingly.</p> | |

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| | F. Flex indicated that he was going to Pickering Mayor separately to ask for the City's support and in kind services that would be split per capita between municipalities | |
| 5. | Update | |
| | <p>2009 Coffee House: Chris Gordon provided an update on the Coffee House event scheduled for December 18, 2009 at the Pickering Public Library auditorium. [YOU]nity has 18 confirmed performers. Different sections of the auditorium will represent different parts of the world. Funds raised at the event will go to the charity The Refuge that shelters homeless youth in Durham.</p> <p>2010 Heritage Day: Call for participants is still active, deadline is January 8, 2010. Marisa reminded committee members to seek participants for the event.</p> <p>2010 Race Relations Forum: Fairness Commissioner, The Honourable Jean Augustine has been confirmed as the Guest Speaker of the 2010 Race Relations Forum</p> | |
| 6. | Other | |
| | Ashes: Cecil Ramauth advised that Devi Mandir is working with Mayor Ryan to confirm suitable location. He also understands that the City of Pickering is getting input from the community before making a decision on the matter | |

Meeting Adjourned: 9:00 pm

Copy: City Clerk