

# Cultural Connections Committee Minutes

**Location:** City Hall Auditorium

**Date/ Time:** 3/25/2026 12:00-1:00PM

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00PM by Chair Iraida Muñoz.

## 2. Roll Call and Introductions

Roll Call and introductions were conducted by Chair Iraida Muñoz at 12:01PM.

## 3. Attendance- 17 people

- Members in Attendance (In-Person): 8  
Jennifer Hosking, Donna Marceau, Marina Vaz, Iraida Muñoz, Xiannglan Zhu, Elizabeth Berry, Meta Vornehm, Vengerflutta Smith
- Non-Members in Attendance (In-Person): 5  
Wei Lin, Angela Mercado, Bob Cioppa, Alejandro Urrutia, Amy J. Hunt
- Non-Members Attending via Zoom: 4  
David Holt, Joslyn Kuchinski, Julia Zhenko, Tori Markiewicz.

## 4. Approval of January and February 2026 Meeting Minutes

Jenn noted a typo in the January minutes. With that correction, the minutes were approved by all attending members.

## 5. Iraida provided an update on last Friday's Multicultural Festival Bi-Weekly Meeting.

The event will take place outdoors, and we will continue to offer a hybrid format. We will try to get some help from other organizations to promote the hybrid option. The team is also exploring the launch of a dedicated website to support event broadcasting and increase visibility. Community members are welcome to join the event committee and attend upcoming Zoom meetings; the next meeting is scheduled for 3 PM on April 3.

Meta added that last year we missed food vendors from our festival and that was a huge missed opportunity. David added Manchester and Concord festivals provided food and it went very well. This year NMCF is looking forward to welcome food vendors again in an outdoor setting.

6. Joslyn and Meta shared information about Rivier University's International Spring Festival.

Last Friday, Rivier University hosted its International Spring Festival 2026, organized by the Office of Global Engagement. This community event featured cultural immersion activities, international food, and student performances, celebrating the diversity of the campus community.

Earlier in the week, on Wednesday, Rivier's Office of Global Engagement hosted its annual Holi observance, bringing the community together to celebrate the Festival of Colors with traditional foods, vibrant music, and a joyful welcome to a new season. On Thursday, the Rivier's Office of Community and Connections hosted its annual Women's Empowerment Panel. Our CCC chair Iraida Muñoz was part of the panel and shared with students, faculty, and alumni some of her challenges as a Hispanic woman of color in the workplace.

7. Wei Lin presented the topic of Chinese Culture Society of Greater Nashua

- Introduction of Chinese Culture society of Greater Nashua
- The mission of the organization
- Key programs such as Chinese New Year celebration, summer BBQ, small social activities, and collaboration events with other organizations.
- Future plans to work with local partners, engage more with community and targeted events for individual needs
- Challenges our organization is facing including US-China relationship, making our voice heard and our community seen.

8. Community Announcements

- Donna shared the Council for Community Transportation monthly meeting held on February 26, and announced the upcoming bicycle sale on May 2, 2026.
- Meta shared information about the Interfaith Book Group hosted by the Nashua Area Interfaith Council, as well as the Sacred Music Concert on March 22. She also mentioned a Rivier University event and also Finding Home Memory of Immigrants event by church. She will send out additional details.
- Marina reported that the Health and Quality of Life Survey for Nashua is ready to launch and has been translated into several languages.
- Angela announced that the Stronger Together for Nonprofit Organization meeting will be held with United Way tomorrow.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00PM.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, April 29th, 2026 at noon- Nashua City Hall Auditorium with a virtual option for nonmembers as needed.