

## Cultural Connections Committee Minutes

Location: City Hall Auditorium

Date: 7/30/2025 | Time: 12:00 – 1:30 PM

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. by Chair Donna Marceau.

### 2. Roll Call and Introductions

Roll call and introductions were conducted by Chair Donna Marceau at 12:02 p.m.

### 3. Attendance-**30 people**

#### **Members in Attendance (In-Person):9**

Xianglan Zhu, Donna Marceau, Lynne Boyer, Claudia Decker, Sandra Pratt, Gloria Timmons, Iraida Muñoz, Daniel Healey, Marina Vaz

#### Non-Members in Attendance (In-Person): 12

LaTonya Muccioli, Eric Drouart, Julia Stryzhenko, Carla Begin, Alexandra Segura, Alejandro Urrutia, Johanny Peña, Foquia Ijaz, Sara Lemley, Mara Lessard, Tori Markiewicz, Adam Thompson

#### **Members Attending via Zoom: 3**

Elizabeth Berry, Barbara Costa, Nonyem Egbuonu

#### Non-Members Attending via Zoom: 6

David Holt, Emily Vassar, Ali Sekow, Irma Elizabeth Palacios, Loick Muyuka, Yu Aloe Rioux

### 4. Approval of June 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Approval of the June meeting minutes was made.

### 5. Presentation & Discussion

1. Today's presentation was led by Tori Markiewicz from GSOP speaking on Active Bystander Training

### 6. Nashua Multicultural Festival Planning

Multicultural Festival Updates- Iraida Muñoz- chair of the festival planning committee presented some general updates and explained that some of the cultures consulted have commented on their desire to participate in the festival in person. They are intrigued by our festival's hybrid format, but at the same time, they prefer to participate in an in-person festival and have no fear of ICE deportations. The two organizations consulted are fully insured and release the City of Nashua from all liability. Iraida explained that she would present this information to this committee and to the City of Nashua's risk management department.

#### 9. Additional comments

- Marina Vaz commented that she was very curious and disappointed to notice the low participation of minorities in the last elections, especially given the lack of interpreters or translation into other languages to facilitate voting. City Clerk Daniel Healey responded to her comment by saying that during the last general election, efforts were made with volunteers to provide interpretation services in Spanish and Portuguese. Iraida Muñoz echoed his comments and invited Marina to join the interpretation efforts as a volunteer for the upcoming elections. Marina expressed her gratitude for the opportunity to participate.

#### 10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at 12:00 p.m., Voting on the By-laws and Presentation on the Nashua Multicultural Festival