



# Diversity Advisory Board

## Meeting Minutes

**Monday, June 29, 2020\***

**5:30 – 7:00 PM**

**Virtual meeting via Zoom**

**Present:** Ahmed Al-Zubaidy, Anusha Neelam, Manijeh Mehrnoosh, Rehana Malik, Shara Noori, Monica Estrella

**Staff:** Alexis Ball, Jodi Monroy, Beaverton Night Market Manager

**Guests:** Jordan Thierry

### 1. **Welcome, review of meeting purpose and norms**

Alexis welcomed members, went over agenda.

### 2. **Public comment \***

None.

### 3. **Beaverton Night Market 2020**

#### a. **Updates on planning process**

-Alexis gave an overall logistical update. New details include: filming of the live show will take place at the library, promotional materials and campaign have started (Facebook events page is up and ready to be shared). Currently focus is on filming pre-recorded content with vendors through mid July, then will shift to editing and then day-of production details. Performances will also be pre-recorded. Food kits will no longer be sold (too many state requirements for timeframe) but there will be craft kits for sale in advance of the market. Carmen Benoit (Cultural Inclusion intern, started today) will be supporting marketing efforts.

-Jodi shared that 2 of 10 vendors have been pre-recorded now and it has been going great. She expressed that for years we have tried to figure out how to allow vendors to share who they are, passion for their products and that this project is a huge step in that direction. Vendors are really excited about the market, feeling hopeful about creating a really high-quality event. Headliners will be DJ Prashant (Bollywood DJ) and Nii Ardley (West African performers from last year).

-Rehana asked Alexis to send updated vendor list to DAB.

-Monica shared that her friends are really excited.

#### b. **Meet Jordan Thierry, Creative Director**

-Jordan introduced himself, his background, and shared what excites him about this project. He talked about his vision for the live event and discussed the need to identify “hosts” (formerly called emcees) for each night of the show. He shared the following recommended criteria for hosts:

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- Will need to identify a total of 4 hosts (2 for each night)
- Need to be comfortable in front of the camera and improvising on the spot
- Need to be able to commit to time for prep and show:
  - Rehearsal on Thursday, 8/13 from 2-7 pm +
  - Friday, 8/14 OR Sat, 8/15 from 5-10 pm +
  - Personal prep to learn the program +
  - 3 virtual prep sessions (focused on going over responsibilities, best practices on transitions, walking through program step by step, questions to study/ask)
- Potentially match up hosts with vendors if there are existing relationships or Spanish language ability (for Sat night)
- Consider diversity on screen (most vendors are middle-aged women)
- Alexis shared that historically the board as a whole is invited and that new voices are encouraged in this role. Could also invite MYAB or other past DAB members if necessary.
- Committee members interested: Manijeh (Persian community) – can but would like to encourage new members, Monica, Anusha, Rehana
- Shara volunteered to be around for live filming days to help with Kurdish vendors
- Committee decided to encourage hosts to wear their traditional clothing to reflect the diversity on DAB, and to have a woman and man host together each night.
- Nominations: Oswaldo, Ahmed (will think about it).
- Decision to ask larger DAB for interest at July 13 meeting, then decide by that Friday.

#### **c. Background info to include in live program**

- Alexis asked the group for input on what else they would like highlighted in the program and shared some of the topics covered in the past: who DAB is, history of BNM, educate about night markets around the world. Also planning to coordinate group welcome in multiple languages, Mayor comments.
- Rehana asked about sign language or closed captioning. Staff will follow up to ask TVCTV if this is available.
- Alexis asked the board to send their quintessential night market images to inform set design. Committee ideas for ambiance: background / crowd noises of people buzzing around to elicit feeling of being in environment, making set dark with lots of lights, sharing images of past years of BNM to show evolution.

#### **d. Performers**

- Jodi asked for input on other four performer slots beyond headliners. She shared a list of potential ideas and asked for feedback.

#### **e. Next Steps:**

- Alexis will send updated BVNM summary report and vendor list
- Committee members will send night market image to Alexis
- Ahmed and Rehana will send additional performer contacts to Jodi
- Anusha will give report out to DAB on 7/13
- Everyone will find Facebook event, RSVP and share with friends

Minutes submitted by Alexis Ball. Next subcommittee meeting will be Monday, July 27 from 5:30-7 pm on Zoom (or in person?).