

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the City of Goshen Community Relations Commission

Tuesday, June 13, 2017, 5:30 P.M., Goshen's Abshire Park, 1302 East Lincoln Avenue, Goshen, Indiana

CRC Mission: *Our mission is to foster a climate of positive community relationships and non-discrimination in which all Goshen citizens enjoy equal opportunity for education, employment and access to public conveniences, accommodations and real property.*

CRC Members Present: Ed Ahlersmeyer, David Araujo, Lizzy Diaz, John Ferguson, Nathan Mateer-Rempel, Evan Miller, Sreekala Rajagopalan, Judy Snider and Angie Troyer

CRC Members Absent: None

CRC Consultant Present: Darin Short

Others Attending: Bill Mateer, Goshen Farmer's Market, and two members of the Market Board of Directors

1. Call to Order & Opening (5:33 – 5:34)

- a. Angie called the meeting to order.
- b. No Opening Reflection was offered. Scheduled, upcoming Reflections include:
 - July – Sreekala
 - August – Evan
 - September – Lizzy
 - October – Nate
 - November – Angie
 - December - Ed

2. For the Good of the CRC – Public Comment (5:34 – 5:34)

There were no comments offered.

3. Farmers' Market Grant (5:34 – 5:40)

Sreekala and John reported on the discussions of the request review subcommittee. Several concerns were voiced during the subcommittee discussion, but were satisfactorily resolved.

Angie asked Market representatives if there were plans for sustaining the Salsa Festival should the CRC decline funding assistance. Representatives responded that no, this discussion had not yet been had.

John reported that it is the recommendation of the review subcommittee that the Market request for support be approved in full.

ACTION: Nate moved that the recommendation be approved and that the CRC invest \$1,640 in the 2017 Salsa Festival. The motion was seconded by Sreekala and was passed unanimously by CRC members.

Judy inquired as to the process for getting a check to Market officials. Bill responded that the CRC will be invoiced by the Community Sustainability Project, Inc. (the official grantee).

4. Arts on the Millrace / Humans of Goshen (5:40 – 5:47)

Angie reminded Commissioners of this upcoming event (Saturday, June 17) to be held along the Millrace near the Farmers' Market. Angie will be present from noon until 4:00, "re-launching" the Humans of Goshen initiative. She has no designated location at which to set-up a canopy. She will be present however, securing patron pictures.

Darin suggested that she have some CRC promotional materials available, connecting the Humans initiative to the Commission.

5. Reports and Statistics (5:47 – 6:00)

Darin reported receiving a call from an individual who had seen an item for sale at a local Marathon station. She reported that the item contained "questionable" language and images. Darin investigated, agreeing with the caller. However, a lawyer who was consulted indicated that there is nothing illegal about displaying the item.

The caller was most appreciative of the CRC's follow-up. Further, she posted her concerns to a webpage and other users thereof have contacted the store with their concerns.

Judy reported a similar situation near Concord Intermediate School.

David reported having been contacted by a parent whose child was being bullied. David questioned whether the CRC had any responsibilities in such a matter. Commissioners responded that no, the schools were probably the proper source for any sort of resolution.

It was also suggested however, that the families involved may qualify for neighbor-to-neighbor mediation and that they should contact Jose Elizalde at LaCasa.

6. Review of May's Minutes (6:00 – 6:01)

Commissioners reviewed minutes presented.

ACTION: Evan moved that the minutes of the CRC meeting of May 9, 2017 be adopted as presented. Nate seconded Evan's motion, which was then unanimously passed.

7. Treasurer's Report – Judy (6:01 – 6:11)

Judy presented financial reports, commenting that Taste expenses are fully paid and that there is a \$50 printing charge yet to be paid from Diversity Day.

Upon further review of the Statements, Commissioners agreed that there appear to be inaccuracies on the report. Judy will investigate further with the Clerk Treasurer office.

Angie reported that as per Downtown Goshen, Inc., the CRC will need to move the 2018 Taste of Goshen event. The CRC will need to host Taste at either the April or June, 2018 First Fridays event.

8. Announcements by CRC Members, Closing Comments and Reflections on the Meeting (6:11 – 6:28)

Angie commented regarding the draft of the CRC annual report which she developed and distributed. She is uncertain when she will be asked to present the report to the City Council, and will offer Commissioners as much notice of the presentation as possible.

Commissioners offered suggestions regarding the draft. Angie received these and will produce a final draft of the report and distribute it to Commissioners.

Angie also reported that she has spoken with Goshen Schools officials regarding the formation of a CRC in the middle school, and was received positively. Commissioners generally agreed that such an initiative was interesting and potentially valuable, but also posed an unanswered question. How much time can the CRC invest in developing and sustaining such an effort?

9. Adjournment (6:28)

The next meeting of the Goshen CRC is scheduled for July 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Goshen's City Hall.

Action: Evan moved to adjourn the CRC meeting of June 13, 2017. The motion was seconded by Nate and was unanimously passed.