

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION Tuesday, Dec 12th, 7p. Goshen City Hall

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: Evan Miller, Ed Ahlersmeyer, Sreekala Rajagopalan, Nathan Mateer Rempel, Angie Troyer, Judy Snider, Lizzy Diaz

Guests: Shobhe (Sreekala's sister) Jatish Yoti, Jordan Giger

1. Call to Order & Opening: Angela calls the meeting to order at 7:03
 - a. Introduce visitors and new members: Sreekala introduces her sister Shobhe visiting from India for a week.
 - b. Review the agenda: Remove 'Nov.' from 2. Add consultant contract to agenda at number 6, and discussion of CoreCivic detention center at number 3.
MOTION to approve the agenda as amended: Ed/Evan/carries
 - c. Opening reflection by CRC members
Ed shares an article that reflects on NFL kneeling protests and the African American community.
2. For the Good of the CRC (public comment) Jatish Yoti, candidate for U.S. Congress in the 2nd district shares his campaign platform.
3. CoreCivic detention center proposal discussion. Sreekala introduces the topic of the CoreCivic center, and asks why the Commission is slow to address it. Evan and Nate respond that a group discussion is necessary to determine appropriate response. Angela points out that the center is not in fact proposed for Goshen proper, and as a government entity the CRC is not equipped to engage as activists. Nate offers the Vision statement as a potential structure for a CRC statement on the proposed facility. Discussion continues about an appropriate role for the Commission. Evan proposes a written statement based around our Vision and Mission that could be distributed via various media. MOTION: For Nate to draft a statement that reflects concerns about the facilities potential impact to our mission and Vision, to circulate this statement with an appointed subcommittee, and consider it at the next regular meeting. Evan/Nate/carried Subcommittee appointed is Nate, Evan, Sreekala, and Lizzy.
4. Member Recruitment goals/ideas: Commissioners discuss the lack of member appointments for the New Year and resolves to contact the Mayor's office and City Council for action.
5. Subcommittee report
Bystander Training: Darin offers a report from his discussion with Drs. Kendra Yoder and Regina Shands Stoltzfus. MOTION that the bystander training be focused on racism response. Angie/Evan. Discussion follows on the ability of the Commission to carry through and what the role of the Commission will be going forward. MOTION carries

Officers: Nate shares the slate from the nominating committee, proposing Lizzy as Chair, Ed as Vice-Chair, Evan as Treasurer, and a blank at Secretary, The Commission discusses the challenges moving forward and the rationale for the slate.

Marketing: Darin offers a proposal from El Puente Newspaper for Angie offers that it is a media distribution proposal, and not a content creation proposal. It is not well received by the Commission as it varies widely from the aims of our marketing RFP. There are two other weak possibilities for receipt of proposals to the request.

Community Conversations: Darin reports on the subcommittee putting together agenda for these conversations. This may involve beginning these conversations with smaller, focus groups to test the process. The Commission is supportive of this direction.

6. Consultant's contract: Darin highlights the changes from the 2017 to the 2018 contract, which are minimal. MOTION to approve the contract amended to have the payable date as 2018. Discussion, of the addendum followed, asking that any specific personal names are changed to positions. Angie/Evan/carried.
7. Reports and Statistics
No phone or email activity in the last month.
8. Review of November's minutes MOTION to approve Evan/Lizzy/carried
9. Treasurer's report: Numbers have not changed since the preceding month, and the totals are accurate. Discussion continues of how to encumber the funds for Darin's agreement.
10. MOTION to adjourn Nate/Ed/carried
11. Announcements by CRC members closing comments and reflections on the meeting
Adjournment-Next meeting is January 9th, 2018 at 7p at City Hall