

## MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 7 pm. 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 present: Ed Ahlersmeyer, Evan Miller, Sreekala Rajagopalan, David Araujo, and new member Michele Fanfair-Steury. Lizzy Diaz joined by phone.

Guests included City Councilmen Brett Weddel and Jim McKee as well as CRC Consultant Darin Short.

1. Angie Troyer called the meeting to order.

Angie moved to remove "Review of December Minutes" from the agenda since no one had December minutes on hand. Evan seconded and motion carried. December minutes were taken by then CRC commissioner Nathan Mateer Rempel. Darin will contact Nate to obtain copy of minutes.

2. David A. provided a reflection using a Viewpoint from TIME magazine.

3. For the Good of the CRC – no public comment was provided.

4. Vote for officers was taken which included the following slate:

- Chair - Lizzy Diaz
- Vice Chair - Ed Ahlersmeyer
- Treasurer - Evan Miller
- Secretary – to be determined

Ed moved to accept the slate as presented. Seconded by David. Slate passed 5-0

Ed requested Angie stay in meeting as secretary.

Ed moved into Chair position as Lizzy is attending via phone.

Brett Weddle thanked Angie for her service.

5. **By stander training** - last planning meeting was in Nov. Moving forward with training which will be focused on race and sexual harrassment. In process of adapting materials/presentations. Working with Dr Yoder and Dr Shands-Stoltzfus. Looking to schedule a meeting with subcommittee. Ed joined as a member of subcommittee.

**Marketing** – have received only one application for consultant "very affordable". Will invite this person to interview when we are ready to host those. Darin is to reach out to EyeDart for this

position. Phil Metzler with Community Resilience Guild thinking of submitting a proposal. Marketing ambitions: Angie will still consult and help with content creation of news articles, web site posts, press releases on social media as needed. The goal is to communicate consistently across the community. Subcommittee to be recreated in February.

**Community Conversations** - Darin approached Phil Thomas as facilitator. Said he does not want to move forward until CRC membership is more whole. Phil does have ideas to work with.

**Recruitment goals** - there are several applications for council appointment. Ed mentioned the council is considering Glenn Null. Much discussion followed and can be viewed in the attached "MEETING NOTES".

**Proposed Immigrant Detention Center** (by CoreCivic) within Elkhart County and a few miles from Goshen city limits: Presentation of draft of public statement to be considered for adoption by CRC.

Ed made a motion to remove the portion of the sentence that said "with expert help from Goshen college." Evan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sreekala made the motion to amend the statement to indicate the CRC is appointed by city council and mayor. Ed seconded and Ed opened the floor to public comment. Motion passed 5-0.

Evan made a Motion to accept and publish the statement with the changes noted above. Ed seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Statement to be distributed to mayor, council and newspapers.

6. Reports and Statistics - none
7. Treasurer's Report - Evan met with Judy Snyder for training. Spoke about meeting with City Treasurer office contact. Numbers to come in February. Budget is set.
8. Comment by CRC members were offered regarding the Core Civic letter, the role of a city council liaison, expectations/"job descriptions" for commissions, conducting exit interviews with CRC members who leave and excitement for 2018.

Public Comment - Weddle said he was impressed by the speed of the statement draft. He also said the city website has neighborhood associations on it and appreciates comments about who serves on the boards. He said we should have the public statement translated. Commissioners noted that while there is encouragement to fill positions there is value in quality over quantity. Ed challenged each commissioner to attend at least one neighborhood association meeting and to make contact with the leaders.

Evan moved to adjourn and this was seconded by David. Passed unanimously.

Originally drafted by Angie Troyer and edited by Darin Short