

CRC Meeting - Oct 10th 7p Goshen City Hall
All members in attendance.

7:03p Angie called to order.

7:03p Angie moved to change agenda, removing Goshen Police Chief visit

Nate 2nd. Passed 6-0

Evan moved to approve the agenda as amended, Nate 2nd. Passed 6-0.

Introduced guides and commissioners, guests in attendance Councilman Mike Orgill and Glen Knoll.

7:05p Nate offers a reflection - > please see appendix

7:12p Glenn spoke during privilege of the floor. Just checking in, commented that the agenda should be provided in printed form for visitors. Councilman Orgill spoke during privilege of the floor, commenting that he was in attendance to “gain knowledge” since he had proposed a 13k cut to the 2018 CRC budget. He would like to see CRC do more with what is has. Darin commented that we can expect to encumber around 14k from 2017, the proposed 2018 budget was 36.5k giving the CRC about 50k to do the work in 2018. Nate’s point about having a paid staff and the positive difference Darin’s extra time has made in regard to providing momentum and continuity. Evan provided reflection on our strategic planning process. Planning out how we can best affect things to see change. The leverage points.

7:24p Community Conversations subcommittee report - here to engage in facilitated dialogue to bring people together and break out of echo chambers. Subcommittee has not meet since September and there was no meeting time set.

7:29p By Stander training subcommittee report - There have been 3 meetings since September. Reviewed existing organizations, looking to use those as resources but looking to partner with Dr. Kendra Yoder from Goshen College to develop our own unique curriculum. Next meeting scheduled for Oct 13th.

7:36p Marketing Subcommittee report - The marketing subcommittee will over the start up of the CRC Corps and would like to have developed content before we roll it out. Ed gives background to the corps vision. Corps is about spreading communication through networks that already exist in the community. Darin reported that there have been no responses to the RFPs. RFPs are due Nov 1st.

7:47p IDI subcommittee - Evan provided an update and reflection on the IDI project. How cultural awareness affects how we do anything. Goal would be to determine what impact intercultural awareness and commonality to reflect and perform the mission and effectiveness of the CRC. Project tabled until mid 2018.

7:50p Statistics Report - One phone call from a community member expressing excitement about community conversations and expressing interest in assisting/participating.

7:55p Elections - Creation of a nominating subcommittee John, Nate, Judy, and maybe Angie will be retiring. Sreekala, Nate, and Ed will be committee and will have recommendations for 2018 officers to present in December. Angie will ask legal to clarify how appointments.voting works. Nate made a motion for the creation of the committee and Lizzy 2nd. Passed 6-0.

8:03p Treasure Report - Donation acct is down 2100 and no changes have been made. Darin's payment came out of the wrong line and the check for the Latino Art's event has not cleared. Judy is going to contact Clerk-Treasurer's office.

8:10p Reflections and side conversations again, Reflections on the chief's visit. Ed offered the explanation of the chief having an illness. Darin is to reach out for a possible Nov follow up visit.

8:20p For the good of the CRC - Glenn's suggestion for the Mayor to appoint someone. Questions to police dept, give them enough time to review (the chief was given the questions a month in advance of planned visit) when there is turnover, history is lost. CRC must have some consistency.

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Nate 2nd by Ed. Passed 6-0.

Next meeting is set for Tuesday Nov 14th at 7p in City Hall.

Appendix

Pondering what I would share in this month's reflection, and realizing this is my last opportunity before I depart the Commission, I worked to come up with something really cool. I wasn't too successful. Of startling and novel observations, I could think of none. Clever personal stories, not so much. But, I was able to reflect on how I came to the CRC, and why and what I hope for the Commission in its' future.

I'm not sure when I first became aware of the CRC, but probably back to its beginning...I'm one of the diminishing number that use print media as a primary source and have always taken a paper and followed local government. And I clearly remember positive responses to the Klan rally that forced this Commission into being long ago in particular a great anti-racist punk rock show down in Rogers Park.

I was aware, but didn't participate in much on the civic level. Young, married early, and deeply cynical about the ability of people to overcome their destructive natures; I made relationships, work as an apprentice carpenter and pursuit of a musical avocation central priorities. All good things.

Somewhere along the way I began to be aware of and value the opportunities I've been afforded in life. And while I will probably always harbor a cynical core, was prompted by some requests to look for ways that I could be part of developing a local climate that provided similar opportunities for others.

Through work with the neighborhood association, a desire to recognize the value of an ever increasing Latino immigrant population in my neighborhood and encouragement from others I decided to run for City council.

A brief aside...this value of immigrants to the Chamberlain neighborhood I believe, cannot be overstated. Despite 10 years of continuous partnered effort between LaCasa and the City, there continues to be a lot of room for improvement to the distressed housing stock there. And immigrant families are finding opportunity in this and making much needed improvements all around the neighborhood.

Anyway, central to my campaign was what I believe to be an unprecedented amount of door-to- door campaigning. We made one round of the district where every door was contacted, and second and third rounds that were more targeted. I met a lot of people. With a couple glaring exceptions these people were positive, kind, and at least acted interested. I got to know my part of the City, and it underlined a growing belief that community relationships are an important part of our infrastructure and should be cared for as such. I found the campaign process to be a great privilege as I learned about the day to day struggles and victories around the district and was afforded wonderful opportunity from City department heads to learn about the nuts and bolts of City government.

Though I hadn't expected to, I lost.

A couple months after that Mayor Kauffman offered a position on either the Board of Zoning Appeals or the CRC. That was, as they say, a no-brainer. In 2012 I joined up with Sreekala, Darin, Joe Liechty, Richard Aguirre, Julia Gautsche, George Smucker, Glenn Null, and Miguel Millan. I was put in the Secretary position almost immediately which was an excellent spot (in my opinion) for a new member to observe closely the activity and interaction in the Commission. That year the thing that sticks out in my mind is discussion around a proposed curfew for minors in the downtown area. Some saw it as specifically targeting Latinos, some saw it as a breach of the freedom to assemble, and some saw it as a workable solution to a tough problem of large groups of kids impeding pedestrian traffic and dominating interior environments. In the end the curfew didn't pass and a group of people defined as Ambassadors took it upon themselves to work with DGI in keeping kids moving along downtown and engaging with them. Seems to have worked. Took a lot of discussion to get there, and it was interesting because people who were typically allies found themselves in opposition.

Some of the other memorables are a round-table immigration discussion held at the high school, the approval and passage of the Sundown Resolution, the years' long Vision Project soliciting public input on the direction of the CRC, sponsorship of the Community Policing Presentations, a re-visiting of the effort to extend protected class status to the LGBTQ community, and continually improving Taste of Goshen events.

In my memory, the most successful things we participated in were the Sundown Resolution, the Community Policing Presentations, and now I would even say the Vision project. And this is because they brought people together who normally didn't get together to work on a project, or intentionally learn from and about one another.

I hope the CRC continues to seek out and support these types of initiatives and events. Relationships built from diversity, generative interaction and seeking commonality will best anything we can do with echo chamber Facebook advocacy. And, while we certainly need to work on developing a core group of supporters, it is important to remember that we'll do best when that group represents a wide cross section of Goshen including political diversity.

Commissioners, as you move around the community, remind yourself that you are an ambassador for the CRC. Bring our Principles to life in your actions to the best of your ability. You don't need to force it,

but take the opportunity to connect with the other, whomever that may be for you. And shoot that hand up when the Chair is putting together a subcommittee.

I'm grateful for each of you and your presence around the table. It is truly a privilege to serve with such a great group of people. All the best to us as we continue forward in the pursuit of our Vision.