

Minutes

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Goshen City ANNEX CONFERENCE ROOM, 204 E. JEFFERSON ST.

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: Evan Miller, Sreekala Rajagopalan, Michele Fanfair-Steury, Don Brown, Judith Davis, David Araujo; CRC members absent: Glenn Null, AJ Delgadillo

Others present: CRC consultant, Darin Short; City Council Liaison, Julia King; Guest: Nicole Bauman

1. Call to Order & Opening 7:24 pm
 - a. Review of the CRC Mission and Principles
 - b. Introduction of visitors
 - c. Review the agenda
2. For the Good of the CRC (public comment)
3. April 9, 2019 minutes were approved
4. New Commissioner Announcement – Evan informed us Yolo Lopez DeMarco has agreed to serve on the CRC.
5. Project activities
 - Bystander training – Sreekala, Judith, Don will be on a subcommittee to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit proposals from trainers who offer bystander training.
 - Community Conversations - Judith moved to accept Jes Stoltfus Buller's report, David seconded; after further discussion it was decided that a request will be made of Jes to include in the report the summary conversations made to the large group near the end of the community conversation; motion was tabled until next meeting; Evan brought a proposal to move forward with additional Community Conversations (see enclosed). This will be discussed further during the June 27 CRC meeting.
 - Follow up to April 27 retreat: Proposal for next steps was presented (see enclosed); Evan moved to accept the proposal, Sreekala seconded; proposal was approved unanimously.
 - Proactive violence prevention – Don will develop a proposal for the CRC to consider during the June meeting; Michele will look into asking the Boys & Girls Club to help coordinate an activity/competition involving the youth and the CRC principles (a yet-to-be-determined reward will be offered to one or maybe multiple youth).
 - Goshen Middle School project report – Sreekala suggested the concerns shared by the students be taken to teachers, principals, administrators, and the school superintendent; there is general sentiment that the CRC should continue with projects like this with the schools; Evan will get permission to help promote these projects soon on the CRC Facebook page, website, and other news media; Evan will talk with Christa about doing this next year; Judith will write stories; Don and a few other CRC members will contact Diane Woodworth to provide her an update in regards to what we are doing.
 - Taste of Goshen Event Debrief – a brief discussion/reflection about the May 3 event was held; final performance numbers and budget will be presented on June 27; Darin announced it will be

in the best interest of the CRC, the Food Vendors, and the community to hire someone else to oversee this event in the future although Darin will continue to support whomever the future leader is.

- Report from Principles subcommittee – none offered.
6. Proposal for June, July and August meetings: Evan moved to change the June meeting date to June 27 (Thursday), to cancel the meeting in July, and to move the August meeting to August 8 (Thursday), Sreekala seconded the motion; the motion was approved unanimously.
 7. Proposal to move CRC meetings to the City Annex building – Don moved to change the location of all future CRC meetings to the conference room in the City Annex Building located at 204 East Jefferson St. in Goshen; Judith seconded the motion; the motion passed 5-1.
 8. Reports and Statistics – nothing to report
 9. Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer Glenn Null was not present so no report was presented.
 10. Announcements, closing comments, reflections on the meeting – Darin described an incident he observed involving the police earlier in the month.

Adjournment – 9:34

Proposal: Next steps for community conversations

Issue

Given the success of our April 25th Community Conversation, we wish to design and host a series of community conversations in the fall of 2019. How will these decisions be made? Who should make them? What is our timeline for moving forward?

Background

The joint GCS and CRC planning committee for the April 25th meeting did a fantastic job, and pulled together a successful event in a very short time. What planning team do we need to move forward with a series of events in the fall? In addition, we gathered some great data that we can use to shape future events.

Proposal

June 27: CRC will approve a structure for designing a series of community conversations. These conversations will be hosted in the fall of 2019. Jes Stoltzfus Buller and Evan Miller will develop and propose this structure. The CRC will also create a subcommittee for designing the series. The subcommittee will include positions filled by GCS, and city staff.

August 6: The planning subcommittee will propose a budget for approval.

Rationale

A smaller group (Jes and Evan) can develop a structure for designing the entire series because of their experience working with these types of events. With that structure in place, a larger group is needed to ensure we have diverse perspectives at the design table.

Remarks

This plan assumes some shifts in CRC meeting dates in the summer months.

Proposal: Next steps for CRC Mission Statement

Issue

Our April 27, 2019 CRC retreat was a good start for reviewing the CRC mission, but we need more time on it,

Background

The current CRC mission statement was developed several years ago. Most of the current commissioners have no real ownership or clarity about what it means. At our retreat, it became apparent that the mission needs to be revised and updated to reflect our community's needs today.

Developing a new mission statement is time consuming work. Scheduling large blocks of time is painful at best. We need a strategy for developing an updated mission statement.

Proposal

By the middle of June, Darin will meet individually with each commissioner to harvest insights and priorities that emerged from the retreat. Darin will present these findings to Evan on June 24. At the June 27 CRC meeting, Evan and Darin will present a prioritized list of the themes that must be incorporated in a new mission statement. At that meeting, the CRC will form a subcommittee to work on the wording of a new mission statement.

Rationale

This proposal ensures every member has an opportunity to provide input into the content of the new mission statement, without requiring another retreat.

Remarks

We have lot on our plates, but this seems very important.