

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION Tuesday, December 8, 2015, 7:00 P.M., Goshen City Hall, 202 S. Fifth St.

CRC members Present: Bryce Gast, Ed Ahlersmeyer, Kelly Huffman, Nathan Mateer Rempel, George Smucker

Members Absent: Anne H. Berry, Sreekala Rajagopalan

Guests: Darin Short Consultant, Jose Elizalde, Glen Null

1. Nate Called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

- a. Nate introduced visitors
- b. The agenda was reviewed
- c. Bryce Gast gave his reflection based on family experiences throughout 2015.
January reflection: George Smucker

2. Review minutes for November 10, 2015 motion to approve (Kelly, Nate, carried)

3. Treasurer's report Bryce Gast gave the report, 2 payments to Darin Short (Consultant) were the only expenses for the month. 2 more vision expenses near \$1,500 will be paid in December this year. A slight increase in public account funds due to interest earned. A motion was made to allow Chair to sign a contract w/ Downtown Goshen, Inc for Taste of Goshen if rates remained the same as 2015 (Kelly, George, carried)

4. Reports and statistics Darin Short reported no phone calls, he received an invitation from South Bend to attend meeting w/ local CRC's in discussing LGBT issues on Thursday. Nate had a woman contact him requesting funding that was not representative of the CRC's ability to aid. La Casa neighborhood luncheon was attended by Nate who gave a brief presentation on behalf of the CRC. Other issues include there were discussions about a possible discrimination during city election that were considered due to training issues. A brief has been filed with the election board.

5. CRC Review of grant request for neighbor to neighbor mediations was introduced by Nate. Jose said La Casa has done mediation training for neighbors, and West Goshen had a conflict between 3 parties, Latino family, Anglo family, and land lord. The concern of those involved was cost, especially if not at fault and having to pay for the mediation. Request for Pilot program is \$500 and period is for 6 months. Motion was made to approve grant application in the amount of \$500 and the MOU for the project will require reporting when a case is referred and at the end of the grant period, funds not spent during agreement period shall be returned to the CRC (Ed, George, Carried)

6. Revised MOU for Consultant to CRC and approval was introduced by Nate. Oversight and Vision Language under Consultants responsibilities (a&b) were changes from 2015 contract. CRC web presence and updating is cumbersome through current processes and the CRC looks to facilitate web construction going forward. A motion to approve MOU for 2016 was made (George, Ed, Carried)

7. Formal Vision adoption Nate introduced the discussion to adopting the Vision 2025 Statement. A motion was made to adopt the Vision 2025 Statement (Kelly, Bryce, Carried) Nay: George

8. Retreat recap and next Steps Darin Short lead the discussion on the Retreat and handed out the report to the commissioners. Report outlines potential timeline for 2016 for CRC. The need to replace 2 vacant CRC seats was discussed and potential commissioner candidates are being contacted.

9. 2016 Officers potential officers were discussed. Nate said he would chair the commission next year if needed. Questions remain on secretary and vice chair. Bryce agreed to act as treasurer again if needed.

8. For the good of the CRC

Glen commented that the vision statement for 2025 could be changed by the CRC as was the position of the steering committee. He recommended the CRC consider George's comments on wording as an issue for his Nay vote.

10. Adjournment (Kelly, Ed, Carried)

Next meeting is January 12, 2016

Ed Ahlersmeyer; Recorder