

Minutes

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 7:00 P.M., Goshen City Hall, 202 S. Fifth St.

CRC members Present: Ed Ahlersmeyer, Sreekala Rajagopalan, Nathan Mateer Rempel, David Araujo, Darin Short, Bryce Gast

CRC members Absent: John Ferguson, Rocio Diaz

Guests: Angie Troyer, Rob Roeder, Bill Mateer, Mayor Jeremy Stutzman

1. Call to Order & Opening

Nate called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, members and guests introduced themselves.

- a. Reviewed the agenda and approved.
- b. Nate gave a discussion considering the recent shootings across the country, read from Leon Wolf publication posted on Red State, and the commission briefly commented.
- c. August reflection: Bryce Gast

2. Review of Minutes: Commission reviewed minutes from June meeting, motion to approve, carried (Ed, Sreekala)

3. Treasurer's Report: Bryce Gast gave the treasurer's report indicating Darin's contract funds of \$1,125 were paid, and a Taste of Goshen expense of \$32.07. Balance \$35,493.75.

4. Reports and Statistics: Darin said a call had been made asking for the name of current CRC chair. Plymouth St. resident, Francisco, has an issue with a neighbor shining bright light at home, yelling during drive by, previous relationship was positive. Resident ignored while attempting home visit. Darin said Rocio had made contact and communicated that the CRC couldn't do something specifically. Darin proposed to write letter and contact the individual for Francisco, and invite resident to converse w/ CRC and Francisco. Darin distributed the letter for review. The letter invites a resident on 15th Street to meet w/ the CRC and Francisco, and discuss perspectives on their relationship.

Motion to approve the letter presented, then to distribute on behalf of the CRC and Francisco to the 15th St. resident, pending verification of address. (Bryce, David, Carried)

Darin spoke w/ woman who had Black Lives Matter banner, inviting her to have discussions w/ CRC.

5. Grant request: Goshen Farmer's Market: Nathan presented the recommendation from the Sub-committee which was positive to fund the full request of \$2,875. Nate suggested promotional/informational materials from the CRC be available for the event. Bill mentioned that the CRC should contact the event's marketing manager, Jo Ellen Davis, in order to coordinate the materials. Nate asked that Darin follow up. Motion was made to approve and fund the request in full, per sub committee's recommendation. (Bryce, David, carried)

6. Mediation Grant extension request was introduced by Nathan, stating that he was waiting for information back from Jose Elizalde and the Center for Community Justice

7. Discrimination Complaint Intake Form had been made available by Nathan and he noted the need to formalize the process for a discrimination complaints. Mayor Stutzman recommended the Goshen CRC contact Elkhart's full time director for comment and guidance.

8. Representative Boards and Commissions Initiative was introduced by Nathan. He proposed the CRC take a position of leadership in an effort to improve the under-represented groups in community leadership. Darin suggested that funding of boards sensitivity training should be shared. Nathan suggested a meeting w/ CRC members and the Center for Intercultural and International Education. Members supported the intent of such an initiative, and were also supportive of the next step of an initial planning meeting.

9. For the good of the CRC:

Angie Troyer shared the Humans of Goshen project and the transition when she inherited the project from Sara Klaassen.

Rob Roeder commented on the opening reflection expressing personal experiences and concerns.

10. Announcements by CRC members: prayer walk tomorrow in Goshen. David announced a new bi-lingual radio station, and that he'll coordinate social events for the station.

11. Motion to adjourn (Bryce, David, Carried)

Recorder: Ed Ahlersmeyer