

## Minutes

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

Thursday, August 8, 2019 - 7pm.

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

**Others present:** Darin Short, CRC consultant; Julia King, City Council Liaison

1. Call to Order & Opening 7:01
  - a. Review of the CRC Mission and Principles
  - b. Review the agenda
2. For the Good of the CRC (public comment) – a guest from the community introduced herself
3. May minutes were accepted
4. Project activities
  - a. Community Conversations: Glenn moved to approve the proposal (attached) for the fall series of conversations, AJ seconded; Discussion: Will racism be included as a topic of discussion during the dialogue on discrimination in the spring series? Indiana Black Expo and NAACP should be invited as partners. Motion was approved unanimously.
  - b. Bystander Training: Judith moved to accept the proposal from Nicole Bauman (attached) with a specific budget limited to \$1,300, Don seconded, approved unanimously; Darin to send Doodle Poll to schedule the training during November.
  - c. Proposal for revising Mission Statement – Sreekala moved to adopt the mission statement as presented (attached), Michele seconded; Don moved to amend the proposed mission statement to add the word “either” immediately before the word discrimination and “or racism” immediately after the word discrimination, Judith seconded Don’s motion; Don withdrew his amendment and Judith agreed to the withdrawal; Judith proposed an amendment to change “discrimination” to “racism or discrimination of any kind”, AJ seconded, amendment approved 7-1; Yolo then moved to replace “build capacity” with “create space”, Michele seconded; Yolo then withdrew her amendment and Michele agreed to the withdrawal; Mission statement as follows was approved unanimously:

The CRC serves Goshen by developing programs and policies that aim for a city without racism or discrimination of any kind, and build capacity for creative problem solving, resiliency, understanding, and compassion among the diverse people in our community.

- d. Proposal for revising Principles – AJ moved to approve the revised principles as presented (attached), Glenn seconded, Don moved to amend the principles to add the

words “truthfulness and integrity” to the principle of honesty, Sreekala seconded, amendment approved 5-3; principles as amended approved 7-1; Judith will provide a draft for additional clarification of each principle and share it via email with the principles subcommittee.

- e. Goshen Middle School project follow-up – Christa Kauffman continues to have interest in collaborating with CRC.
- f. Proactive violence prevention proposal – will be presented at next CRC meeting
- g. Incident regarding racism in schools and community (new agenda item) – Don described an incident that took place in Goshen Community Schools between a white male student and a black male student. The incident resulted in a harsher punishment for the black student. Additionally, in legal proceedings that took place outside of the school system the black student was issued a restraining order. The following actions were proposed for the CRC to implement:
  - i. Use existing documents and facts to provide a report for the CRC to consider with the goal of ultimately drafting a resolution to be approved by the CRC. The purpose of the resolution will be determined after a review of the documents, facts, timeline, etc.
  - ii. Subcommittee that includes Michele and Sreekala will work with Don to draft this report. Darin will provide additional support.

Meeting adjourned momentarily from 9:16 - 20

- h. Taste of Goshen Event
  - i. Accept Final Report (attached) – Michele moved to approve the report, Don seconded, approved unanimously
  - ii. Open issues and next steps – Downtown Goshen, Inc. has indicated the CRC will not be invited back in 2020 to implement and oversee a Taste of Goshen event.
- 5. 2020 budget proposal presented by Evan (attached)
- 6. Consultant’s activity report was presented (attached) – Don moved to accept, Glenn seconded, motion carried unanimously
- 7. The new position of a youth advisor to the CRC has been created. How this person will be appointed has not yet been figured out but the hope is to have a student advisor at the September meeting.
- 8. Reports and Statistics – nothing to report
- 9. Treasurer’s report presented by Glenn.
- 10. Announcements by CRC members, closing comments, reflections on the meeting Adjournment - Don mentioned and described the success of the event he held at the Tolson Center S.O.U.L. event in Elkhart. AJ provided a reflection on the use of words and their impact on individuals.

Meeting adjourned 9:59 pm.