

## MINUTES



REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF GOSHEN

COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION

Monday, December 13, 2021–7 p.m.

Goshen City Council Chambers - **111 E. Jefferson St.**

**This meeting was held in person and via Zoom**

PRESENT: Cathie Cripe, Glenn Null, Ed Groff, Malik Cato and AJ Delgadillo (Director)

ON ZOOM: Michele Fanfair-Steury (audio only) and Sreekala Rajagopalan

ALSO PRESENT: Megan Eichorn (Council Liaison) and Steve Bermudez (Youth Advisor)

**Meeting called to order:** 7:15 p.m.

### **Call to Order & Opening**

Roll Call

Reviewed the agenda (Approved) (**Accepted by consent**)

Reviewed Minutes from November 8, 2021 (**Minutes Accepted by consent**)

**Treasurer's Report:** The CRC line for 2022 was approved when Council passed the 2022 budget. AJ began looking into how it will fit into the commission's actual budget, and realized he will need a volunteer team in place.

### **Unfinished business:**

*Sundown Town Marker*— AJ produced his final report about the Sundown Town Marker survey, which was shared with the CRC members and residents Dan Shenk, Lee Roy Berry and Allan Kauffman ahead of the meeting.

Glenn, a member of the subcommittee that worked on the Sundown Town Marker project, said they met several times and pleased with how many community members responded to the survey and the authors' reception to feedback and suggestions from the community and CRC.

**Motion** to support the marker's wording as is presented to the CRC and move forward. Motion by Ed. Seconded by Sreekala.

### **Motion PASSES 5–1.**

Reports and Statistics

1. **Council Liaison Report:** Megan has nothing specific to the CRC tonight.
2. **Director's Report:** AJ reported that the majority of his time this past month finishing the report of the marker. He has been in talks with community activist Jordan Giger and Goshen College Faculty Regina Shand Stoltzfus about a Juneteenth event for Goshen. He will be pulling together a subcommittee to organize the event.
3. **Special Events Committee Report:** Cathie wanted to note that the CRC is planning an event in celebration of Indigenous people and another event on Juneteenth, and would like to have something focused on the Latinx community. She added this should be a priority as

they are Goshen's largest demographic. AJ said he would like to continue rolling, after the Juneteenth event, into a partnership for the Hispanic Heritage Festival.

- a. Plans for having a contest in which GMS and GHS students would submit an essay about the CRC's principles continue. AJ would work with Megan.

**New Business:**

**Officer nominating subcommittee:** Officers must be voted in in January, so a committee should be created in December to work on nominations.

Glenn, Ed and Sreekala will be on the nominating committee.

Megan suggested holding off from the nominating process, as the Council is in talks about changes that she is not at liberty to discuss. She said the Council would be considering the changes at their upcoming meeting, Dec. 21.

Cathie suggested combining the officer titles of secretary and treasurer to streamline the nominating process, which Ed agreed to.

As of the December meeting, the recommendations for officers are: Cathie Cripe as Chair, Tyrone Malik Cato as Vice Chair and Ed Groff as Secretary-Treasurer.

**Closing comments:**

Ed would like to comment that we got the strategic goals for 2022, which seems like a nice summary of the work done previously by the commission. We have a good document on how to move forward. Some of these items should become parts of the monthly agenda. At least those that are pertinent. That this guides the work the CRC does in 2022.

Glenn: "It is that time of year in which we help others, but little things go a long way. A praise, a word, a helping hand; you don't know what will grow from that, maybe 20, 30 years down the line... It's something we should do every day, but this time of year, we need to do something."

**Motion** to adjourn. Motion by Glenn. Seconded by Sreekala.

**Motion: PASSES unanimously.**