# Community Relations Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9, 2024 – 6 – 8 p.m.



### **MINUTES**

#### CRC Members:

- 1. Catherine Cripe, Chair
- 2. E-man Monge, Treasurer
- 3. Sharon Beechy, Secretary
- 4. Kyle Richardson
- 5. Ana Zamora
- 6. Casey Kasper-Welles
- 7. Lori Copsey
- 8. Sara Lozano, Youth Advisor
- 9. Megan Peel, Council Advisor

# City Staff

- 1. Gina Leichty, Mayor
- 2. Amanda Guzman, Communications Manager
- Hannah Scott-Carter,
  Community Relations Manager

# 1. Call to Order and Welcome (Cathie Cripe, Chair)

- a. **Present:** Catherine Cripe, E-Man Monge, Sharon Beechy, Ana Zamora, Casey Kasper-Welles, Lori Copsey, Megan Peel, Amanda Guzman, Hannah Scott-Carter, Gina Leichty
- b. Absent: Kyle Richardson, Sara Lozano

# 2. Review the CRC Principles (Cathie Cripe, Chair)

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

- a. Honor the dignity of each person and each person's rights
- b. Listen to the diverse voices of the community
- c. Cultivate constructive communication and engagement
- d. Value honesty, truthfulness, and integrity
- e. Promote a community that is safe for all
- f. Acknowledge and accept the challenge of change—that it may have both positive and negative consequences
- g. Promote the acceptance of differences
- h. Promote equality and freedom from discrimination

# 3. Approve the Agenda (Cathie Cripe, Chair)

## **4. Review and Approve Minutes** (Sharon Beechy, Secretary)

December 12, 2023

## 5. Treasurer's Report (E-man Monge, Treasurer)

## 6. Neighborhood Reports (Hannah Scott-Carter & Amanda Guzman)

- a. Upcoming
  - i. Shanklin Millrace: January 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.
  - ii. East Goshen: January 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

## 7. Council Liaison Report (Megan Peel)

Council met 1/8/24 - Council discussed board and commission applications and applicants during executive sessions. The council posed the question: what is the best size for this [CRC] commission? Council wants CRC to discuss how many participants need to be in the commission.

An ordinance will have to be passed to lower the number of commissioners to 7 from 9 Proposed amendment to the ordinance and Sharon will write a letter of recommendation to the Goshen City Council on behalf of the CRC

Gina recommended commissioners individually state whether they are in support or against lowering the number of commissioners.

E-man: In support

Ana: Worried about representation and wants more youth involvement, on the fence about supporting

Casey: Concerned about representation, understands optimal board size is typically smaller than 9. In support

Lori: Concerned about work-load. In support as long there is an opportunity to reevaluate at the end of the year

Sharon: In support as long as chance to re-evaluate

After discussion Sharon Moves to recommend to the Goshen City Council the CRC would like to change the ordinance from 9 voting commissioners to 7 voting commissioners moving into 2024. Casey seconds and motion passes unanimously.

### 8. Old Business:

- a. Upcoming events
  - i. CRC Essay Contest
    - 1. Commissioners ask to clarify prompt to address at least three of the questions
    - 2. Ana asked for the prompt to be translated to Spanish as well
  - ii. International Women's Day Luncheon
    - 1. Discussion on potential speakers at the event

### 9. New Business:

- a. CRC Officer nominations
  - i. Suggested current officers hold positions and Ana nominated Casey as Vice Chair
  - ii. Unanimous vote for the 2024 Officers:
    - 1. Chair: Cathie Cripe
    - 2. Vice Chair: Casey Kasper-Welles
    - 3. Secretary: Sharon Beechy
    - 4. Treasurer: E-man
  - iii. Brief discussion about desire for clarification on duties of each role