

MINUTES
CITY OF DELANO
Spirit of Community Commission
Tuesday, May 14, 2019
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ted May at 7:04 p.m.

Members present: Theresa Green, Sarah Grosshuesch, Diane Johnson, Joe Kittok, Ted May, Becky Schaust

Liaison: Sabrina Hille, Nick Neaton

Guests: none

2. Approval of April 23 meeting minutes

On a motion by Schaust, seconded by Green, minutes of the April 23, 2019, were approved.

3. Additions to the agenda

Commission vacancy

Joining with Delano United Diversity Task Force (DUDTF) to sponsor a float in July 4 parade

4. Order of Business

A. Report from the Community Expo

Discussion took place about our presence at the expo with a general feeling that we accomplished our goals of reaching a variety of people and hearing their opinions and viewpoints. The new space seemed to work well. Next year we will request a separate table.

B. Program Evaluation

Sabrina presented a summary of the commission self-evaluation conducted on

April 23. Discussion took place regarding the results with specific attention to items

#1. *“Advise and make recommendations to the city council on community issues related to health, safety, community involvement and the fair and equal treatment of all persons”*,

#2. *“Study the nature and causes of barriers in the City’s ordinances and community policies and make recommendations for improvements.”*

#4. *“Enlist the cooperation of other government agencies, groups, organizations, and individuals in the community attentive to the Spirit of Community.”*

Regarding the work of the commission, extensive discussion took place about item #4, specifically, our role in enlisting the cooperation of other government agencies.

What is our relationship with other commissions? Some commission minutes are not posted in a timely way. Nick will look into the schedule for posting commissions’ minutes on

the city website. How do we keep abreast of developments in council proceedings and commissions' proceedings? What is the conduit or vehicle to communicate among the various groups? It was also discussed that a regular policy update and review of City policies and ordinances take could place at each meeting so SOCC can respond to citizen needs and issues.

It was further felt that SOCC members need to be more looped in with the City Council, so they know about proceedings. How are we alerted to changes that affect people so we can be responsive to their needs?

A question about city budget was asked. Perhaps an annual presentation on the budget, or at least our parts can be added periodically to the agenda.

Further discussion addressed the purpose of SOCC. Is our purpose to be preemptive or reactive?

Nick and Ted will communicate with Phil Kern and Dale Graunke regarding these questions and report at the June meeting what system of communication might be possible.

C. SOCC brand phrase/tagline

We discussed different ideas for taglines, including Sarah's email from October. By consensus "Connecting neighbors with community" was selected. Ted will ask Cate Miller to add green and orange colors to the wording.

D. Directing citizens' concerns to the proper City officials

Discussion took place regarding how to advise or direct citizens when they have concerns or issues with ordinances, nuisances or violations of statute, or with safety and property issues. Discussion centered on various issues and who is the responsible authority, the City or Wright County Sheriff's Office?

E. Vice-chairperson position

The SOCC reviewed the vice-chair position description. The job description was adopted by consensus. A vice-chair will be elected at the next meeting.

F. Commission Vacancy

The vacancy will be posted in media by the city staff. We will approach DUDTF membership as well as consult the SOCC volunteer lists and Becky's recommendation, Janelle Gildenmeister. Ted will contact Matt Schoen regarding a student representative.

G. Delano United Float

Nick will learn more about the subcommittee's plans and connect interested people from both organizations.

Nick discussed a joint meeting of local groups that share an interest in an inclusive community will be held Thursday, July 11. Included are SOCC, DUDTF, school district, GRRL, church,

Critical Conversations. The meeting will start with an ice breaker, get-acquainted activity and address common purposes and potential cooperative initiatives.

5. Other business

6. Adjournment

On a motion by Diane, seconded by Becky, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 7:00 p.m. at Delano City Hall