

MINUTES
CITY OF DELANO
Spirit of Community Commission
Tuesday, January 14, 2020
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order

Present: Ted May, Janell Gildemeister, Theresa Green, Joe Kittok, Dale Graunke, Nick Neaton, Sarah Grosshuesch, Diane Johnson

2. Minutes

A. December 10, 2019 Minutes

On a motion by Janell, seconded by Theresa, the commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

3. Additions to Agenda

4. Order of Business

A. Icebreaker question

SOCC members shared a favorite memory from childhood.

B. Membership update

Theresa Green's commission term is ending after our February meeting. She is undecided about whether she will seek another term. SOCC members are encouraged to develop a list of potential candidates for the commission.

C. US Census Count Committee update

The City received a \$750 "mini grant" for use in promoting the census.

SOCC members brainstormed promotion ideas, including:- Pens

- Pizza parties at apartments
- Other promotional items
- Direct mailing

Questions included:

- Are some buildings more likely to have residents who won't take the census?
- Can the City see a map that identifies undercounted areas?

It was agreed that a direct mailing could be most effective. Ideally, the mailing would emphasize ways in which census count benefits us locally and how the census is administered. Postcards should be as large as budget allows, and printed on colored paper (although not red or blue). Nick, Molly and Ted work on this project.

Other promotion ideas included: Census info printed on the actual utility bills
Posting physical flyers at the March 3 primary election
Sharing information in church bulletins
City's digital sign
Chamber of Commerce sign.
Delano Legion electronic sign
Community Education brochure
Senior center calendars

D. Citizens Academy/Neighborhood Ambassadors program

Nick shared the idea of starting a citizens' academy for sharing information about the functions of local government. This could help to build our neighborhood ambassador program. SOCC members are in favor of the idea, to be modeled after existing programs in neighboring cities. We would need the cooperation of some City employees and commissions. Ted, Theresa, and Diane volunteered to serve on a subcommittee for this project. Nick will follow up with more information. Potential launching in fall 2020.

E. Policy spotlight: Winter parking restrictions

The current policy does not allow for overnight street parking in winter months. SOCC members questioned whether winter street parking was a problem. Anecdotal conversations with City plow drivers says that it is not. Commission members echoed that concern, based on their observations. SOCC members supported the concept of first providing a warning before issuing a ticket.

F. Update on Diversity Task Force events

Dr. Ramon Pastrano will be discussing diversity and inclusion in leadership at the senior center on Monday, January 20 at 11 a.m.

The next community book read is on Saturday, February 1 at the senior center from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. The book is *White Fragility* by Robin DiAngelo.

5. Other Business

6. Adjournment

On a motion by Dale and seconded by Joe, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 11, 7:00 pm