



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Neighborhood Revitalization Commission

Monday, October 30, 2017

6:00 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Tim Kabat at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 9 - Tim Kabat, Barb Janssen, Ralph Geary, Jennifer Trost, Angela Manke, Charles Welch, Courtney Lokken, Jim Bagniewski, Nora Garland
Excused: 1 - Will Kratt
Absent: 1 - Steve Nicoli

Others present: Miranda TerBeest, Jacob Sciammas, Jason Gilman, Sara Olson.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Garland, to approve the October 2, 2017 meeting minutes. The motion carried 9-0 by voice vote.

Agenda Items:

1. [17-1417](#) Neighborhood Association internship opportunity

Miranda TerBeest was present from the UWL Foundation to provide an update on an internship opportunity. She is working with a donor to create a fund to create a stipend for an internship for three years. The purpose is to serve all neighborhood associations. She met with Jacob Sciammas for LCNi and with Tim Acklin for Planning. The format would be a fall internship and a spring research project with a grant. She needs to know where the intern would be housed and who they would report to on a day-to-day basis. Gilman noted the intern could be under Planning with access to computer and equipment/tools/etc. with daily direction and guidance from Gilman, Acklin and Olson. The internship would be for 10-20 hours/week and the stipend would be \$1000/year. The intern would receive credit for internship and credit for research. This position would begin in Fall 2018. Miranda would need the job description by late-winter/early-spring so they can recruit. Jennifer Trost drafted a job description which was reviewed by the commission. Gilman noted the job description could incorporate the workplan priorities, comprehensive plan market & data updating, event planning, social media and videography. Lokken noted we should incorporate the

donor's goals and vision; Miranda will send to staff to distribute to the working group. Kabat noted there is a standard template for internships; staff will distribute to the working group.

2. [17-1414](#)

NRC Social Media Strategy

Chuck Welch and Sara Olson have administrative access. Sara Sullivan still has moderator access and would like to post occasionally; the commission noted that was ok until the working group has determined the social media plan. The working group is meeting Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.

3. [17-1246](#)

Discuss City of La Crosse Housing Task Force Plan

Attachments: [Single Family Conversion Committee Final Report 12-04-13](#)
[FINAL HTF REPORT FEB 2012](#)

Jason Gilman distributed the handouts linked on the agenda for reference. Mayor Kabat noted the state laws about rental registration and inspection; the working group will need to research what is allowed. Currently inspectors need a tenant complaint or a warrant to investigate an issue. We will need strong connections to UWL, Viterbo and WTC. Gilman noted we could also upzone properties that are ripe for multi-family housing. He noted the committee and task force reports linked on the agenda are for reference and do not need to be entirely incorporated into the workplan. Janssen noted it is not just rentals that are run down, but there needs to be prevention and enforcement of single family homes also. Gilman announced a recent Cinnaire partnership.

4. [17-0848](#)

Action Plan Workshop Session, facilitated by Jason Gilman

Attachments: [2017 NRC Action Plan draft in progress](#)
[Action Plan Responses July 2017](#)
[Workshop PowerPoint 9-11-2017](#)

Jason Gilman distributed the workplan action steps that were reviewed at the last meeting. He noted the draft vision statement. He asked the commission to take some time to rank their top 5 priorities and second 5 priorities and to return the documents to staff tonight. Staff will compile results. Staff will also attach the draft to Legistar.

5. [17-1416](#)

Commissioner Announcements

-GENA - They planted 35 trees with CIP funds. The Memorial Pool is still a hot topic in the neighborhood. Mayor Kabat noted we need to engage fundraising professionals. Jacob Sciammas noted friends groups are successful. The NA is seeking a new intern. They may do a Christmas cookie swap in lieu of a December meeting. The Police Department and Parking Utility were at their last meeting; UWL neighborhood will be a test area for a parking benefit district. There was also discussion about who pays and how much for a resident parking permit.
-Weigent Hogan - They are having a potluck in December. Boulevard signs have helped increase attendance at meetings.
-Washburn - They just held elections. Cassie Woodward was elected as co-chair and Vickie Unferth was elected as treasurer; other election results were not known.
-Downtown - There was an informational meeting last Wednesday with approximately

50-60 people in attendance. They introduced the vision for the NA and did small group breakout sessions by residential area or topic of interest. There was mostly positive feedback. The next step is to form a steering committee and they are seeking participants who are residents of the neighborhood. Lokken and Parks Dept met with a design company for Burns Park.

-Bluffside - They are seeking feedback about priorities and park needs.

-Logan Northside - They started a Kwik Trip Scrip fundraising program. They would like another pedestrian crossing on Gillette St.

Holy Trinity Longfellow - They held a ribbon cutting at the South Library Park. Trees have been planted in the neighborhood. They are pressuring the Library Board to restore hours.

-PPH - The streets lights are on throughout 5th and 7th. Powell Park had the barriers removed, but the park is not officially open. They are excited about the City's recent acquisition of Plaid Pantry. There is also progress with the Zahn Building redevelopment. Caroline Gregerson attended the last meeting to get feedback for the JDC on the Zahn project. There is a special meeting in December with neighbors about the project.

-All neighborhoods -- The Fall in Love with your Neighborhood event was a great success and a wonderful first all-NA event.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next meeting is December 4, 2017.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Bagniewski, seconded by Lokken, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 9-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

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