



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Neighborhood Revitalization Commission

Monday, January 8, 2018

6:00 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Commissioner Kratt arrived at 6:01 p.m.

Present: 7 - Tim Kabat, Barb Janssen, Steve Nicoli, Angela Manke, Will Kratt, Jim Bagniewski, Nora Garland

Excused: 4 - Ralph Geary, Jennifer Trost, Charles Welch, Courtney Lokken

Others present: Council Member Ostrem, Charley Weeth, Jacob Sciammas, Mark Weis, Jason Gilman, Sara Olson.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Bagniewski, seconded by Garland, that the December 4, 2017 meeting minutes be approved. The motion carried 6-0 by voice vote.

Agenda Items:

1. [17-1710](#)

Presentation from LCNI on The Why, How & What of La Crosse Neighborhoods, Inc.

Charley Weeth gave a PowerPoint presentation to the Commission about La Crosse Neighborhoods, Inc. The idea of LCNI came about because of the comprehensive plan and was formed in 1998. The final incorporation took place in 2002. The primary purpose of the organization was neighborhood revitalization and the beginning programs included ReNEW. PPH and Lower Northside were the first neighborhoods to form in 1998 and 1999. In 2001, Goosetown and Washburn formed, and in 2003, GENA formed. In 2008, an ordinance was passed to establish the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission and the first meeting of the NRC was in 2012.

Neighborhood Associations have no legal status, are not part of the City, are not a nonprofit and are not tax-exempt. Livable Neighborhoods, Inc. was around at the time, but was a political organization and was not tax-exempt. The La Crosse Neighborhood Development Corporation was formed in 2013. LCNI was founded in 2015 and is a tax-exempt organization that carries liability insurance. LCNI has chapters, offers a

balanced governance, shared resources, mutual support and is open to all. The Board members are Jacob Sciammas, Charley Weeth, Jim Bagniewski, Mark Weis, Dan Manke, Maureen Freedland.

Charley's suggestions for the NRC would be to give recommendations to policy (land use, zoning, etc.) to Common Council; to take statements the NRC has endorsed and convert them to ordinances and resolutions; and to use CDBG funds to host public forums.

Mayor Kabat applauded LCNI and thanked them for their role in the community. The organization fills a void of giving tax-exempt status, liability insurance, etc. and they could help full the void of training neighborhood associations and assist developing neighborhoods.

2. [17-1414](#) Approval of NRC Social Media Policy as outlined in the November 1, 2017 Work Group meeting notes

Attachments: [Nov. 1, 2017 Social Media Work Group Notes](#)

Commissioner Manke reviewed the proposed social media policy.

A motion was made by Kratt, seconded by Bagniewski, to approve the Neighborhood Revitalization Commission social media policy as presented and to recommend two Facebook administrators be appointed from the work group. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

3. [18-0025](#) Consideration of GIS Analysis of Distressed Property and Zoning Strategies

Jason Gilman gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding some GIS data and an analysis of distressed property and zoning strategies. The NRC was generally in favor of the policy recommendations discussed. Gilman would like to do more mapping and draft policies before the NRC creates a work group.

4. [17-0848](#) Update on 2018 Action Plan

Attachments: [2017 NRC Action Plan](#)
[Action Plan Responses July 2017](#)
[Workshop PowerPoint 9-11-2017](#)
[DRAFT 2018 Action Plan with top 5 final scoring](#)

Jason Gilman briefly reviewed updates. Mayor Kabat cautioned we hold off on the sub-committees/task force groups meeting in between full committee meetings until we have a better understanding of the recent Supreme Court ruling on open meetings rules.

5. [17-1416](#) Commissioner Announcements

Manke - PPH helped host Skate for Kids at Poage Park. The Little Food Pantry has received \$1,600+ in donations and several more neighborhood associations are interested in having one installed. They held a Zahn Building input meeting. The Plaid pantry is gone. The Jackson Street project is on the agenda for next week.

CM Janssen- working on an "All Leaders" handbook with a draft expected in

approximately six weeks together with Bagniewski & Garland.

Garland- GENA's land use ad hoc group had a meeting with Planning in December. There is not a regular meeting in December.

Bagniewski- Bluffside has plans in place for Bluffview Park with a lot of family input. They are discussing Highway 16 signage to distinguish Town of Medary vs. City of La Crosse. Planning staff is attending the January 22nd meeting to seek Kmart site input.

Kratt - LNDC is excited to see the 5th and Mississippi project come together in 2018.

Nicolai -- there were no Apartment Association updates.

Kabat - there is no Mayor's Expo this year.

Logan Northside - They are working on plans for Hickey Park. They did a walking assessment from Hardees to KFC. They are developing their project list for 2018. They are partnering with Lower Northside Depot on communication and projects. They had a social meeting in December. There are now co-chairs instead of chair/vice. The George St crosswalk is not possible, so they might do a lighting upgrade project instead.

Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items

The next meeting is January 29, 2018.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Kratt, seconded by Bagniewski, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 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

Requests from persons with a disability who need assistance to participate in this meeting should call the City Clerk's office at (608) 789-7510 or send an email to ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org, with as much advance notice as possible.