



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Neighborhood Revitalization Commission

---

Wednesday, January 5, 2022

6:00 PM

Virtual via Lifesize

---

In an effort to keep members of the public, City staff and Neighborhood Revitalization Commissioners as safe as possible from the spread of COVID-19, City Staff highly encourages the public to submit any comments, concerns, questions, or support in writing ahead of the meeting to Tim Acklin at [acklint@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:acklint@cityoflacrosse.org).

Members of the public who wish to SPEAK, may access via video conferencing with the following link:

Join the meeting: <https://call.lifesizecloud.com/4796124>  
Click to call from Mobile (audio only)  
United States: +1 (877) 422-8614,, 4796124#

The meeting will be conducted through video conferencing and may be VIEWED ONLY with the following link:  
<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/4796124/c7d43560-fea7-4613-9625-63af875bee87>

#### Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 9 - Linda Lee, Ralph Geary, Will Kratt, Jim Bagniewski, Nora Garland, Larry Sleznikow, Janet Allen, Mitch Reynolds, Jessica Stanton  
**Excused:** 1 - Michelle Staehly  
**Absent:** 1 - Steve Nicolai

#### Agenda Items:

1. [22-0032](#) Collaboration of Green Spaces Update.

Leah Miller provided an update on the program and stated that a draft brochure had been given to the Commission for feedback. Brochure is fairly simple and outlines the process per existing code and who has approval authority, which is based on the type of project. CM Larry Sleznikow asked if the Parks Department has financial resources to help citizens with this or any grants available. Leah stated that there are some opportunities to help people

get started but do put some emphasis on alternative resources. CM Sleznikow suggested adding language stating "some resources may be available". Nora Garland stated that she would like to see more detail but that Leah had stated that it was coming. Nora also suggested being able to look at the application and including suggested native plantings of what to plant rather than just open-ended. Leah stated that they would. Jack Zabrowski suggested that the process become more administrative in approval with a list of approved plantings so as to avoid less meetings for the public. Mayor Mitch Reynolds agreed. Jessica Stanton agreed with Nora about looking at the application beforehand to be able to provide more feedback. Leah Miller stated that she would evaluate all of the feedback and recommendations and bring back more info at the next meeting. CM Sleznikow suggested that this could be a great opportunity for workshops and classes. Staff also stated that the Community Risk Management Department would like language in the brochure about maintaining the required vision corner clearance.

2. [22-0033](#)

Update on preliminary results of Leaf If campaign and announcement of Winter Sustainable initiative.

Leah Miller provided preliminary results on the campaign. 100 new people started mulching based on the survey results. More people have been composting their leaves and have started gardens. More results and a final report to come within the next month or so. CM Larry Sleznikow thanked Leah for all the work she has been doing and for her enthusiasm. Leah also provided info on their campaign to "Salt Smart". Nora asked to make sure this information is easily accessed on the City's website.

3. [22-0031](#)

Review of Draft Ordinance regarding the elimination of off-street parking requirements in the commercial zoning districts.

Staff provided an update to the Commission and explained the amendment. The amendment would add the City's commercial zoning districts to the list of districts that would not require off-street parking for commercial uses only. Residential uses would still be required until the multi-family off-street parking requirement amendment is finalized. Will Kratt asked if projects zoned Planned Development would be required to meet parking requirements. Staff stated that projects are reviewed by use and approved by the Common Council and that they would be reviewed in accordance with use. Will Kratt stated that this is the direction to go. Staff then stated that they would like to have this introduced into the next cycle. CM Sleznikow asked how well publicized Ordinance changes are. He would like more opportunities to be made for the public to know about this amendment. Staff suggested a press release. CM Sleznikow thought that would be a great idea. Staff also asked that members of the Commission attend the public hearings to support it. Will Kratt suggested that the press release include information that explains why this is important and supported with data and facts. Will Kratt made a motion to move forward with submitting it through the Common Council cycle per any additional comments from the Community Risk Management Department. CM Larry Sleznikow seconded. The motion passed 9-0.

4. Update and Discussion on the Multi-Family Off Street Parking Ordinance.

Staff provided an update and background on this ordinance. The subcommittee suggested to include a tiered Transportation Demand

Management plan that required certain pieces of information based on the level of development proposed. Staff stated that they had researched other examples and used them to help put together a draft for the Commission to give feedback on. Will Kratt stated that the draft language was exactly what was discussed in the subcommittee. He also suggested that he would like the resolution to include information supporting why this is important to the city as a whole. Nora Garland that she thought the checklist would help with the public. Mayor Reynolds suggested that, due to how recent the information was given to the Commission, that time be given to them to look at and provide comment on at the next meeting.

5. Commissioner Updates, Developments, Items for next meeting, Future Schedule.

Staff confirmed that the new regular monthly meeting date and time is the first Wednesday of the month at 6pm. Staff stated that continued discussion on alternate side parking will be added to the next agenda. CM Chris Kahlow stated they would like to continue this discussion and provide an update next month. Mayor Reynolds also added that Leah Miller from Parks will back next month. CM Sleznikow asked about an update on rental registration efforts. Will Kratt stated that a joint Economic Development Plan is being put together by an area organization and wanting to merge that with community plans. Will suggested that Julie Emslie, County, Karl Green, LADCO, DMI attend a future meeting to discuss.

## Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm

*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](mailto:ADAcityclerk@cityoflacrosse.org), with as much advance notice as possible.*