

City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall 400 La Crosse Street La Crosse. WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Neighborhood Revitalization Commission

Wednesday, November 9, 2022

6:00 PM

Council Chambers- City Hall- 400 La Crosse St

Special Meeting

Members of the public will be able to attend the meeting in person in the Council Chambers at City Hall

located at 400 La Crosse St in La Crosse, or online via video conferencing with the links below.

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Call to Order

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

Present: 10 - Linda Lee, Ralph Geary, Jim Bagniewski, Larry Sleznikow, Janet Allen,

Mitch Reynolds, Jessica Stanton, Sean Hurtubise, Robert

McDonnell, Vacant 1

Excused: 2 - Steve Nicolai, Will Kratt

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of the September 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

Linda Lee moved to approve the minutes. Ralph Geary seconded. The motion passed 9-0 by voice vote.

Agenda Items:

2. <u>22-1152</u> Discussion and possible action on the draft Rental Registration/Licensing Ordinance.

Staff stated that the Commission asked a lot of questions for staff to bring back tot he Commission. Responses to those questions are attached to the

agenda as well as a draft ordinance that was prepared by the City Attorney's Office. Ellen Atterbury from the City Attorney's Office asked if there were any questions from the Commission. She also discussed what the City's legal ability was when implementing a registration program. Jessica Stanton asked where a normal citizen would be able to find the information once collected as part of the program. Ellen stated that she would have to submit an open records request and then they would have the information. Ellen also stated that she would recommend against any such database being available to the public online. Jim Bagniewski asked what info would be collected and can we require that someone responsible for the property be require to live within a certain distance of the City. Ellen stated that it would be contact info of the owner or a property manager but that we could not require someone to live within a certain distance of the City. CM Neumann asked what the consequence would be if a property owner does not register their property. Ellen stated that they would be issued an Order to Correct. Larry Sleznikow moved to adopt the ordinance as submitted. Ralph Geary seconded. CM Sleznikow sated that he felt this was very important from a safety standpoint for the City to know who owns and runs the rental properties and is information that the City and public should know. The motion passed 9-0 by voice vote.

3. <u>22-1153</u> Discussion on possible regulation/legislation of AirBnBs/short-term rentals.

Staff stated that responses to the Commission's questions were attached to the agenda item. This included staff's best determination of how many short term rental properties were within the city. Somewhere between 150-200. Less than 1% of the City's housing stock. The City does collect room tax but is not able to determine if the room tax is being collected from all of them. Were also able to breakdown which ones were owner-occupied versus those that were not. Staff then stated that they would like additional direction from the Commission on next steps. Linda Lee asked if there were parts of the City that had more than other parts. Jenna Dinkel stated that they were fairly spread out. Any concentration is near the Downtown, however they are fairly spread out. Larry Sleznikow asked if we could contact other communities to ask them why they adopted ordinances and if there were any issues. Staff stated that they could and also asked what are the issues surrounding short term rentals to help staff with direction. Ellen stated that if you want to read a strict ordinance on short term rentals the City of Madison is a great example. Larry Sleznikow stated that he would like to keep the discussion going and would like staff to compare ordinances with other communities. Ellen stated that she can put together a review of ordinances and licenses. Planning staff can contact other communities and discuss why they chose to adopt ordinances. Mayor Reynolds also added that it is important to identify the intent and not to have regulation to have regulation and asked the Commission to be thinking about that.

Updates: Neighborhood Reports and Comprehensive Plan

Staff provided an update on the comprehensive plan community engagement process. Staff has attended several neighborhood meetings and still have a few to attend. Will be coming back to them after the new year for phase 2 to discuss land use and neighborhoods and housing. Commission members provided updates and announcements regarding their respective

neighborhood associations.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.

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.