



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes Neighborhood Revitalization Commission

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Monday, June 2, 2014

6:00 PM

3rd Floor Conference Room

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### Call to Order, Roll Call

*The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Sullivan-Chair.*

**Present:** 11 - Sara Sullivan, Francis J. Formanek, Dempsey Miller, Janice Hauswirth, Barb Janssen, Andrew Londre, Jessica Olson, Phil Ostrem, Tim Skinner, Jerry Swim, Steve Link

**Excused:** 2 - Tim Skinner, Steve Link

**Absent:** 1 - Nicholas Breidel

Others Present: Brenda Rooney, Warren Thomas, Kaylee Ottenbacher, Dale Hexom, Carla Pena, David E. Olson

### Approval of Minutes

1. [14-0666](#) Approval of the April 28, 2014 Meeting Minutes

*Minutes corrected to fix grammar error and repeated sentence revised.*

**A motion was made by Londre, seconded by Formanek, that the Minutes be APPROVED with corrections. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Sullivan, Formanek, Miller, Hauswirth, Janssen, Londre, Olson, Ostrem, Swim

**Excused:** 2 - Skinner, Link

**Absent:** 1 - Breidel

### Agenda Items:

2. Special Report- Brenda Rooney-Food Desert in La Crosse

*Food insecurity was identified by United Way in 2012 as a health concern in La Crosse due to the presence of food deserts. Food deserts: low income census tracts that lack access to a grocery store within one mile of the center area. Food deserts identified in Powell, Poage, Hamilton and Northside neighborhoods.*

3. Mayor's Report

*Mayor Kabat provided the following highlights:*

*Community building. No updates.*

*Crime and safety. Seized a drug house that was causing all sorts of trouble. That came from the neighborhood.*

*Housing initiatives. A survey the UW-Extension was used to determine housing criteria of employees in the city-in the works.*

*Code enforcement. City Council considering reorganization of certain departments such as online rental registration and revision of program.*

*Infrastructure. Additional capital budgets to deal with deficient streets etc. Will need NRC when it is time to advocate for those dollars.*

*Zoning. Trying to do a campus plan for UW-L similar to the plan created for the Gunderson Health system Campus and surrounding neighborhood.*

4. Chair's Report

*New interns.*

- a. Calvin has been analyzing data from listening sessions.*
- b. Ashley will be doing minutes, working on identifying indices of healthy neighborhoods/crime, and working with Weigent Hogan to organize gardening in the roundabout at 19th and Madison and work on other projects with them.*

*Successes.*

- a. Dumpster Diversion.*
- b. Northside Clean up*
- c. Spring into Summer.*

*Upcoming events.*

- a. ReNew last weekend this Saturday.*
- b. AMOS training June 13-14.*
- c. Weigent Ice Cream Social – June 20.*
- d. Logan Northside will help host social event June 27 at Loggers field organized by CM Demsey Miller and CM Ryan Cornett.*
- e. Plan for PPH ice cream social.*
- f. Washburn Yard Sale July 12.*

*Student housing/transportation/ parking survey.*

- a. Update was given to the Commission*

*7 Rivers Community High School contacted the Weigent Hogan NA*

- a. Will be continued organization to collaborate with community for neighborhoods working with schools.*

5. Neighborhood Association Reports

*LN & DN activity report:*

*Sent out the electronic version of the NRC action plan for our new contacts to look over and we will meet at the BRBCC on 6/11/14 at 6:30 PM to discuss. Lee Yang has been forwarding me contact information from new survey responders and I expect to get a few more from her this weekend. Good comments came from them so far. Our Facebook page is up and published thanks to Sherri Swan too. Our meeting will come the day after the Madison trip so I will have a report to the association to discuss that also. Can't remember if you were in the conversation w/Gar and Steve of the Parks Dept., but Red Cloud Park now has several walking paths criss-crossing the park; not too keen on them but they were made to be ADA compliant so can't argue too much about it; I think it really takes away from the beauty of the park.*

*Jerry Swim, Lower Northside Depot Neighbors Association.*

- a. 25 person contact list*
- b. There is a Lower Northside Depot Neighbors Association meeting scheduled next Wednesday June 11th at Black River Beach Community Center to discuss neighborhood survey findings and action plan.*

*Janice Hauswirth, Washburn Neighborhood Association.*

- a. No more meetings for the remainder of summer.*
- b. There will be two interns coming to us in the Fall.*
- c. Washburn will have an Oktoberfest parade float.*
- d. We collected the profits of 1,300 dollars for donation from community garden*

*Phil Ostrem, Powell, Poage, Hamilton.*

- a. Community collaboration meeting discussed benchmarks on development.*
- b. Renovations to Poage Park are now rescheduled to September.*
- c. Members of the organization received training on "family café meetings". The idea was to get the parents to come together to talk about their problems and form relationships with each other.*

*Barb Jansen, Grandview Emerson Neighborhood Association.*

- a. Didn't support changes in parking in our neighborhoods.*
- b. Discussing potential for urban gardens in public spaces.*
- c. Will continue meeting this summer at Common Grounds Campus Ministry, 14th & Pine.*

*Carla Pena, Weigent Hogan.*

- a. No meetings until the Fall. Hopefully we will have some dates.*
- b. Will be meeting in the Hogan building.*
- c. Looking to get our community members and official leaders and committees with specific goals.*

6. Residential Parking - Data Report from Listening Session & Possible Action

*Data Report from Listening Sessions.*

*No action was taken.*

7. Update on proposal to limit rental properties to only 20% of a block

*Formanek reported he met with city attorney and have established a draft of the ordinance pertaining to the 30% information.*

8. [14-0592](#) Second Amended Resolution allocating additional funding for the 2014 Paint and Fix-up Program.

*a. Funding ----When will we hear?*

*b. Policy changes. No action taken.*

**Hauswirth moved to amend the proposed amendment to strike the requirement that \$24,500 comes from the reserve fund and instead comes from Reinvest La Crosse or an alternate funding source. Miller seconded. The motion passed (Formanek, Londre, Janssen abstained).**

**A motion was made by Hauswirth, seconded by Ostrem, that the Resolution be APPROVED as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Sullivan, Miller, Hauswirth, Olson, Ostrem,Swim

**Excused:** 2 - Skinner,Link

**Absent:** 1 - Breidel

**Abstain:** 3 - Formanek, Janssen,Londre

9. La Crosse Neighborhood Development Corporation

*Still recruiting board of directors.  
By next month the board will be selected.*

10. Reinvest La Crosse

*No action taken.*

11. Riverside Redevelopment Charette

*Formanek thanked all those who organized and participated in the event, it was a great success.*

12. TIF 16

*Approved at Plan Commission 6/2/2014. Commission is currently attempting to get 12 acres filled.*

13. Neighborhood Revitalization Commission Web Pages

*List of commissioners.  
"Who are you going to call" contact link.  
Upcoming events.  
More photos to make it more attractive.*

14. Assisting and incentivizing deed restrictions

*No action taken.*

15. Working groups to address the NRC 2013 Action Plan

*No action taken.*

### **Next Meeting Date/Agenda Items**

*June 30, 2015.*

### **Adjournment**

**Hauswirth moved to adjourn at 7:59 p.m. Sullivan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**