

Elsen, Nikki

From: Mitch Moths <rioman.mitch@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 7, 2024 7:12 PM
To: Trane, Andrea; Hawkins, Chadwick; Gallagher, Matthew; Reynolds, Mitch; Schwarz, Rebecca; Dickinson, Tamra; Elsen, Nikki; David Pierce; Janssen, Barb
Subject: Monday Board Meeting

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I am the President of "The Landings" HomeOwners association, 14 Copeland Avenue. I can't make Monday's board meeting on the vote to ban camping on city of La Crosse property in the marsh area, they told me I could send a message.

I don't want to make this selfish, but these are the things I've experienced.

1. I bought a downtown condo for my view, which was the river and marsh. Now we've added tents and blue tarps.
2. I'm guessing if I wanted to sell my unit, the things going on in the marsh will affect my value.
3. Two days ago, I awoke at 4am Saturday morning because two guys on our side of the river were hollering at two guys on the other side of the river. I called the police and they responded.
4. Last week I went for a walk around dusk on the Vietnam Veteran's trail. I didn't realize we now allow the homeless to put tents right on the trail. As I got to that section of the trail I am pretty sure I walked into a drug deal between three men. As I walked maybe 10 feet away from them they all turned and gave me the death stare. As a 66 year old man I balled up my fists and thought if i'm going to get jumped I'm going down swinging.

1. This city has always advertised itself promoting the bluffs, rivers, trails and marsh. The Common Council has in its mission statement a point "Stewardship - Protection of Natural Resources"
2. Not that long ago the city walked away from millions of DOT dollars to help with the traffic issues of this area because it would have an impact on the marsh area.
3. All of that marsh area is owned by the city of La Crosse and should have the same rules as other properties. If I gave each one of those homeless folks in the marsh area money and asked them to set up their tents in the City Hall parking lot, as they were tossed out of there I'm guessing no one would care about their feelings.
4. Lastly, you could bulldoze away the problems at Houska park, you could use heavy equipment to work around areas to clean up the River Point encampment. You let this continue to grow, **which it will**, and the only way you will be able to clean it up is by hand. Hopefully if someone votes no to banning camping in the marsh you will be the first on the list to volunteer to get on your hands and knees to pick up needles, trash and human waste to put the marsh back to where it belongs.

Sometimes we need to look at the 50,000 instead of the 40.

Thanks for your time. Please vote yes to the ban.

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Mitch Moths
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