

Downtown Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes
February 18, 2020 | 5:45 Social | 6:00pm Meeting
People's Food Co-Op | Hackberry's Room | 315 5th Ave S
downtownneighborhoodlax@gmail.com Facebook—downtownneighborhoodlax

Call to Order at 6:01pm by Courtney, who welcomed new members. Present: 16 members, 1 City staff-Andrea Schnick, 4 LCPD officers-Dan Kloss, Alex Burg, Jared Reed, Steve Curns

January Minutes: Penny Fassler moved, Katie Rowen-Koenen seconded to approve minutes. Adopted.

Treasurer's Report: Pam reported income in December of \$194.04 from the Beans for Bags Coop jar. and in January of \$35 from donations at the meeting. January 31 balance: \$799.75. Chris Kahlow moved, Katie Rowen-Koenen seconded to approve report. Adopted.

Announcements:

- Washburn Garden Expo March 7, 10:30am to 2:30pm at Lincoln School. Penny Fassler announced gifts for a gift basket DNA will award. Jim Pake, Chris Hallemeier, and Chris Kahlow volunteered to staff the table.
- Remember to participate in the 2020 US Census.
- City parking survey: cityoflacrosse.org/your-government/departments/police-parking.
- Future Meeting Dates:
 - March 17** Guests: Shanneon Grant (Library Director), Jim Flottmeyer (Riverside Docks & Levy)
 - April 21** Guest: Char Wegner (City Recycling Coordinator)
- April 25 Neighborhood Clean-Up Day
- Dan Kloss (LCPD) thanked DNA for our support of Neighborhood Resource Officers.
- Pam announced that the Bike Share program described in the January meeting will be through Koloni, a different company than presented last month. **Action:** Chris Kahlow moved & Jay Lokken seconded to endorse the Bike Share program. Adopted. Pam said that anyone who would like to serve on the Bike Share Committee should please contact her.

Executive Board Elections

Additional nominees: none. **Action:** Pam Squires moved, Penny Fassler and Linda Sherwood seconded to elect by acclamation Courtney Lokken to second term as Chair and Denny Hallemeier to first term as Secretary. Adopted. **Note:** The Member at Large position is open. By-Laws give Executive Board the responsibility to appoint a vacant position until the next election. If anyone would like to be considered, please let Courtney know.

CIP Award Final Allocation and 2020 Goal Setting:

Courtney reviewed Community Development Block Grant Survey Summary which Caroline Gregerson presented last month, reviewed our 2019 Action Plan vote results, and summarized progress made through our committees:

- **Burns Park** project has been a focus. A design has been approved and is to be implemented during 2020 (April 23 break ground, completion goal: August 2020). Estimated cost is just over \$480,000. (Alternate bid items would add about \$34,000 to costs.) Funding allocated is \$460,000. Need to raise the difference, perhaps from stakeholders around the Park itself. Courtney suggests having an on-going Burns Park committee to be concerned about programming. Also suggests that there be a "Friends of Burns Park" group to keep it looking good.

Board

Chair: Courtney Lokken
Vice-Chair: Chris Kahlow
Treasurer: Pam Squires
Secretary: Denny Hallemeier
At Large:

Standing Committees

Beautification & Character
Chris Kahlow, Chair
Linda Pake
Brad Frahm
Jody Cook
Robin Moses

Fundraising & Viability

Marketing & Community Engagement
Courtney Lokken
Chris Hallemeier
Sarah Pataska

Safety & Livability
Jim Pake

Ad Hoc Committees

Burns Park
Courtney Lokken, Chair
Sarah Pataska
Katie Rowan-Koenen
Linda Pake
Linda Sherwood
Liz Nutter
Chris Kahlow

Lighting
Chris Kahlow, Chair
Daryll Jury
Kristen Brinks
Jay Lokken
Jim Pake
Ross Seymour
Kevin Mack

- **Lighting** funding from various sources totals \$390,000. The Lighting Committee is seeking a decision from the City that residential streets can have residential style lighting if they do not have heavy traffic requiring brighter lighting.
- **Fundraising & Viability** total donations \$1,045.04 in 2019 and January 2020.
- **Beautification and Character:** had two neighborhood clean-up days. Hope to continue those this year. Working on planting boulevard trees and acquiring and placing dog waste receptacles. Also looking at intersection art.
- **Marketing and Community Engagement:** Courtney reported a long list of activities.
- **Neighborhood Safety & Livability:** need stronger communication with the students at UW-L re: bikes on the sidewalk.

CIP Award Allocation: We have \$40,000 of CIP funds left to allocate. After much discussion—**Action:** Denny Hallemeier moved & Jay Lokken seconded to allocate \$20,000 for boulevard trees East of 7th Street (approx. \$160 per tree plus planting costs.), \$2,000 for dog waste stations, an additional \$10,000 to Burns Park renovation project (bringing total up to \$170,000), \$8,000 for intersection safety for pedestrians (to be planned with the City). Adopted.

- Jay Lokken reported that City Vision may have funding for more cameras in Burns Park.
- The City has ordered the razing of the two condemned houses on 8th Street to start in March.

Identify and Approve 2020 Goals:

Courtney introduced a list of possible projects/goals and led a large group discussion of options. After much discussion—**Action:** Linda Sherwood moved & Jody Cook seconded and members adopted the following DNA goals for 2020:

- Have a joint Block Party/Social with Washburn Neighborhood Association and/or Downtown Mainstreet Inc.;
- Form an Ad Hoc Burns Park Programming Committee/Friends of Burns Park Group to begin work;
- Work with the City to increase pedestrian safety at hotspots—especially at Second and Main and work on an education program re bikes on sidewalks (Neighborhood Safety & Livability);
- Design or have designed a DNA Logo;
- Appoint a Parking Ad Hoc Committee to investigate residential parking options with the City.

Neighborhood Resource Officer Update by Officers Jared Reed & Alex Berg, and Sgt. Steve Curns

- New NROs coming to relate to all the parks and parking ramps. Partnership of one La Crosse police and on UW-L officer to work on bike safety and other campus concerns.
- January “point in time” count of people sleeping outside: 4 in downtown. Salvation Army in winter allows people in their warm vestibule if Warming Center is in overflow.

Adjourn 7:37pm. Linda Pake moved & Jody Cook seconded that we adjourn. Adopted.