

Lowell Community Committee
Dec. 16, 2021
6:00pm
Lowell City Hall

Attendees: Cristy Cummings, Michelle Sebastian, John Cantrell, Candy Funderburk, Heather Seay, and Alex Blackburn.

John called the meeting to order and determination of quorum occurred at 6:00pm. A motion was made to approve the minutes from the Nov. 22nd meeting. Minutes were approved.

Old Business

The LCC reviewed photos of homes that were nominated for the best Holiday Decorations, and three winners were chosen. Congratulations to these folks.

New Business

In the past the city had offered businesses in town a matching funds Façade Grant. The process involved an application process and several guidelines were required. The LCC discussed the possibility of reinstating the grant. More discussion will occur at the next LCC meeting.

Staff Updates

Alex reported that the Carolina Thread Trail organization has secured easement from WBTV to build a spur trail to the top of Spencer Mountain connecting to the Carolina Thread Trail in Lowell.

The abandoned dye plant near Poston Park has been donated to the city, and the property will be developed into a public park for Lowell. The property is 17 acres and contains 850 feet of frontage on the South Fork River. The architecture firm, Creech and Associates, constructed a conceptual master plan for this site, including amenities and a layout of the site. The planned redevelopment of this site would include a new location for the City's Public Works Facility and many recreational amenities such as:

- Connection to the Carolina Thread Trail
- Outdoor classrooms
- Multiple playgrounds
- Amphitheater
- Fishing pier
- Kayak launch
- Banquet hall
- Picnic shelters
- Volleyball courts
- Walking paths
- Obstacle courses, and more!

Steps forward will include citizen input on the amenities that may be offered at this site, a brownfield steering committee, and developing a plan to phase the project. More updates on this site to come.

Due to the cancellation of the Christmas Parade, Cristy proposed a parade that could take place in the spring or summer. Possibly a St. Patrick's Day Parade, as an example.

Michelle made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by John. Meeting adjourned.

The next LCC meeting will be on Jan. 24th at City Hall.