

Lowell Community Committee
June 28, 2021
6:00pm
Lowell City Hall

Attendees: Cristy Cummings, Michelle Sebastian, Travis Smith, John Cantrell, Scott Bates, Candy Funderburk, and Heather Seay.

Travis called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 24th meeting. Minutes were approved.

The LCC welcomed our newest member Heather Seay.

Old Business

The LCC made their final changes to the proposed cemetery bylaws and policies. The purpose of this proposed policy is to ensure a safe environment and provide an aesthetically pleasing memorial site. The policy also was developed with the idea of helping the city employees who maintain the area. Highlights of the proposed cemetery bylaws and policies include cleanout dates of flowers, ornaments, etc. three times a year. The public would be notified of these dates in advance and signage with this information would be posted at the cemetery. Travis made a motion that we approve the bylaws and policies that the LCC constructed. John seconded the motion, and the motion passed. Travis will present these bylaws to the City Council for review and adoption at their next meeting.

The completed bike lane on McAdenville Road prompted the LCC to discuss where bike racks are currently located in around town and where the city might want to consider installing additional ones. Cristy shared that there is a plan to install one at City Hall. Currently, the library is the only other location where a bike rack is located. The LCC discussed the possibility of adding bike racks at the parks in town and near the businesses too. More to come with further discussions.

New Business

Cristy reported that representatives from the city are in communication with the organizing members of the Carolina Thread Trail. The long-term goal would be for a completed section of trail that runs from Spencer Mountain to David Stowe Botanical Gardens. Some sections are already in place in Lowell, but there are missing portions between these. The missing portions are designed, and would be completed by, professional trail builders. Conversations with residents in River View and River Falls subdivisions have begun, since these areas are where the missing portions exist. More to come on this project.

Cristy updated the LCC on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The purpose of the plan is to determine current and future facility and program needs in Lowell by engaging citizens in public input sessions, conducting a benchmark study of peer/comparison communities, and implementing a town-wide needs assessment study. Work on this plan will be conducted between August 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022. The city is in contract with a project team from North Carolina State. The team from NC State will gather and compile data and provide a final report with recommendations for the city. Residents will have an opportunity to share thoughts and ideas with an upcoming online survey.

The LCC discussed ideas as to how we might celebrate our residents who are veterans. This celebration will correspond with Veterans Day in November. More discussion and planning to come.

Staff Updates

Cristy reported that there is new signage going in at the parks around town. These signs identify donors/sponsors of the facilities and equipment at these locations.

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

The next LCC meeting will be on July 26th at City Hall.