

Jan. 23, 2023
6:00pm
Lowell City Hall

Attendees: Jim Kiser, Michelle Sebastian, Jessica Holbrook, Joe Gates, Bill Knox, Anne Massey and Cristy Cummings.

Jim called the meeting to order and determination of quorum occurred at 6:00pm.

A motion was made by Michelle to approve the minutes from the Dec 19th meeting and it was seconded by Jessica. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Joe shared an update regarding the Lowell Economic Development Story Maps. A Story Map is a Geographic Information System (GIS) web-based application that combines geospatial data with maps, photos, and text to visualize a theme or tell a narrative. Examples of the types of things that Lowell may highlight on its “Story Map” would be the new development, River Heights, or the relocation of Tindol Subaru to a location on Franklin Street in the city limits of Lowell. Joe asked the members of LCC to give the Lowell Story Map another view to see if any changes should be made. The Story Map will be launched within the next week or two.

Joe shared details of a previous Façade Grant that Lowell’s downtown business owners had available in years past. The LCC had a lengthy discussion around a possible new Façade Grant for businesses. Talking points included who may be eligible, amounts of funds available, the application process, etc. The LCC will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Staff Updates

Cristy shared updates.

- Recreational basketball is going well.
- City employees are working with an outside company for support in writing grants for the Trust Fund and Land and Water Conservation Fund. The grants would be for development and improvements to both Bolick Park and Rankin Park.
- City staff members continue working on updating/tweaking the Lowell website.
- City Council approved the Bulk Trash Pick-Up and Fee Structure.
- The Senior “Valentine” Luncheon will be the next event planned on February 9th. Volunteers are welcomed.

Joe shared updates.

- The Planning Commission is looking into rezoning on Hwy 7 to change it to “industrial flex space”.

Member Comments

Jim shared that the former “chemical plant”, where the new River Front Park is planned, had a warning siren. He inquired if it was still there and if it was feasible to put it back into use.

Jim asked about the possibility of having a firework display in Lowell at an event. Cristy shared that the city had looked into the possibility and our current available locations, such as Rankin Park, would only allow for smaller type pyrotechnics. A show of this fashion had a cost of approximately twelve thousand dollars and would last about thirteen minutes. But Cristy indicated that the city is looking into a possible light show for an upcoming event.

Motion to adjourn was made by Jim and seconded by Bill. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

The next LCC meeting will be on February 27th at City Hall.