LaCrosse Community Partners

Board of Directors meeting 11/3/2023

Present were: Paige, Jamie, Sarah, Rikki, Kenny, Jeff, Alex Guest: Alice Hopkins

Jeff called the meeting to order at **7:03 am**

Minutes from 9/22/23 were presented. Paige moved, and Jamie seconded to approve the minutes with the edit “There are several grants out there right now for gun clubs, not shooting ranges. Motion passed.

**Financial Report (Paige and Sarah):**

* The next meeting will be dedicated to working on the financials and setting the budget for 2024.
* The next meeting we will discuss adding Jamie to the bank accounts as she is no longer a bank employee.

**Grants:**

* Sarah received the $3,000 grant for the pool motor. She does not know when the funds will be released.
* Sarah applied for a grant through Cable One asking for $7,500 to help update the cafe kitchen.
* There are other grants out there that we may be able to use towards updating the cafe kitchen, but both Paige and Kenny say they will be hard to get as the cafe may be owned by a non-profit, the current business is for profit. They explained there are different grants for electrical updates and fire risk updates. Paul Kimmel may be a resource.
* Kenny is still working with Patrick on getting EV charging stations in LaCrosse. There was discussion about paving a couple spaces for EV charging at the rock houses. Sarah will look into this further.
* Kenny is looking for volunteers to help design a Vietnam War memorial for the cemetery.
* Alex would like us to pursue funds through the Port of Whitman.

**Store Building:** We have a party asking to rent chairs. In the past, we have asked for donations, but then we do not get paid. Sarah has looked at rental facilities in the area. They are charging $12 or more per table and $3.50 per chair. LCP will now charge $10 per table and $2.50 per chair. Sarah will not be available when the party comes to pick up 5 tables and 32 chairs. Kenny and Rikki volunteered to help with pick the pick up. They will have to put the chair and tables away on their own.

**Apartments:** Sarah had someone stop in her office and complain about the weeds. She told the person LCP is working on it. Alex said the McGregor crew can help in the spring.

**Andrus Building:** After running an ad for 2 weeks in 6 newspapers, there has been no interest in the Andrus building. Rikki still likes the idea of turning it or a portion of it into a self regulated gym.

**Cafe:**  Beth has asked Council on Aging to send their senior meal payments to LCP as part of her monthly payment. The Cafe will be discussed in detail during our annual meeting.

**Bank:** Nothing to report.

**Rockhouses:**

* Sarah has ordered one additional set of sheets and 2 pillows as it is difficult to get all of the bedding washed in one machine when both houses are being used back to back.
* Sarah has been approached by a massage therapy student who will be graduating in the near future. They are looking for a space to rent for a few hours once maybe twice a month to hold appointments in LaCrosse. They are interested in using the rock houses. The group thought this would be a good idea. Details will be worked out when the student graduates.
* Alex has been in communication with the railroad. It appears they will not be donating the property to LCP, however, will create an indefinite lease for the property the Wheat Suite sits on.

**Service Station:**

* Sarah presented the bid from Meier Architecture and Design. The board does not feel comfortable with this bid. They have asked Sarah to find out how long the bid is good for.
* Sarah has already reached out to another architect who specializes in historical preservation. They are going to meet in December.
* Sarah has reached out to a company who does mobile media blasting. They quoted $4,790.76 to remove the paint off the rocks of the service station. Alex moved and Paige seconded, we accept their bid and have Sarah schedule with them ASAP. Motion passed.
* Kenny would like to see a group remove the lean to before the media blasting takes place.

**Revitalize WA:** Jeff and Sarah agreed the conference was not as good as the prior year, but bringing home grant money made the trip worth while.

**Harvest Dinner:**

* The numbers were down a little, but it may appear to be more because we set up more tables this year.
* Next year, advertise more (flyers to hand out at the school, save the date cards, newspaper if we need to)
* No RSVP on flyers
* Include local businesses, beer garden, etc

**Next Years Officers:** Jeff will be resigning from president. Alex will remain vice president, Paige will remain treasurer.

Paiged moved and Alex seconded we add Alice Hopkins to the LCP board. The unanimous vote was to accept Alice on the Board of Directors.

Next meeting will be November 17 at 7am in the Gathering Place.

Jeff concluded the meeting at 8:20am.

**Action Items:**

**All: Update community service hours**

Alex- Move forward on getting an agreement for the railroad property the bunkhouse sits on

Tami- Crosswalk art

Paige- Help where needed

Jeff- Help where needed

Kenny-Help look for new grants to apply for, continue on EV

Jamie- Work with Leslie for photos for the bunkhouses, bookkeeping

Kelli-Signage for LCP owned buildings

Leslie-photos for bunkhouses with Jamie

Rikki-Help where needed