

Lowell Community Committee
Mar. 22, 2021
6:00pm
Lowell City Hall

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

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

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the Feb. 22 meeting. Minutes were approved.

Old Business

The LCC nominated and elected a new chair and vice chair for the committee.

Michelle made a motion that Travis Smith be the new chair for the Lowell Community Committee. John seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Travis made a motion that John Cantrell be the new Vice Chair for the Lowell Community Committee. Scott seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Several LCC members visited Edgewood Cemetery to make observations regarding the physical state of property. Some of the issues that were reported included fencing, memorials and ornamentation that were in disrepair. Also, the ground has sunk in some areas where older graves are found. The city maintenance department currently must maintain the grounds of the cemetery which is time consuming and challenging because of the obstacles they must work around. Alex shared the cemetery policies that are currently in place for the cities of Gastonia, Mt. Holly, Cramerton, and Belmont. Lowell currently doesn't have any cemetery policies. After much discussion about establishing a cemetery policy, the committee decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

New Business

Cristy shared with the LCC the standards that are required for a city to be designated as a "Tree City U.S.A.". These standards include: 1) A tree board or department 2) A tree care ordinance 3) A budgeted community forestry program 4) An Arbor Day observance.

John made a motion that the Lowell Community Committee take on the role of Tree Board for the city to qualify to be a "Tree City U.S.A.". Travis seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The five Welcome signs for Lowell could use some sprucing up. Our maintenance department would usually take care of these areas, but due to issue around the current pandemic, they could use some support. Some members of the LCC are looking at some dates in April (17th or 24th) to help with cleaning and freshening up the welcome signs.

Staff update

The city wide Golden Egg Hunt is a huge success! Check the Lowell Facebook page for clues daily regarding the location of the hidden egg. You may win gift cards that were graciously donated by businesses in town. This event will continue up until Easter Weekend.

The Senior lunch is Thursday with a pick up between 11:30 – 12:00 at Community Center.

This year's version of an Easter egg hunt is the event "You Got Egged", and it will be happening March 29 – April 1. This will include twelve eggs delivered for each child at the residence and a yard sign indicating that "You Got Egged"!

Litter Clean volunteer opportunity is Apr. 17th. You may sign up online.

This year's Arbor Day Celebration will include activities for the kids and a take-away gift (wild flower seeds). There will also be a "shredding" event at City Hall between 10:00am and noon.

CaroMont Health has increased their donation amount to \$6000 which is to be used to install a new hydration station at Rankin Park near the basketball courts. The water fountain will also include a water bottle filler. Many thanks to CaroMont for their generosity.

Sports recap: 65 children have signed up for baseball.

Some information recently received by Cristy indicates that there may be another RedBull event at Poston Park this spring. Watch for more "bicycle" themed items around the city too.

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

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