

ATTACHMENT 1

MINUTES of a meeting of the **HEART OF OUR CITY COMMITTEE**, held on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020, at 3:30 p.m., Zoom Conference Call with the following in attendance:

- MEMBERS:** Mark Campbell, Councillor (Acting Chair)
Jackie Stambene, Lethbridge Destination Management Organization (LDMO)/Tourism Lethbridge
Lorien Johansen, Lethbridge Historical Society (LHS)
Sheri Kain, Downtown BRZ
Clara Piedalue, Citizen-at-large
Melissa Wiebe, Citizen-at-large
Erin Crane, Economic Development Lethbridge (EDL)
Jordon Head, Citizen-at-large
Noorin Chatur-Muhammad, Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce
Ken Harvie, Development Industry
Marcia Nesch, Citizen-at-large
Tara Gillanders, Allied Arts Council
- OTHERS:** Andrew Malcolm, Urban Revitalization Manager
Cidnee Lorenz, Recorder
Sergeant Mike Williamson, Lethbridge Police Service
- REGRETS:** Jackie French, Southern AB Ethnic Association
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CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m.

1. ACKNOWLEDGE STATEMENT:

“The City of Lethbridge acknowledges that we are gathered on the lands of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains and pays respect to the Blackfoot people, past, present and future while recognizing and respecting their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship to the land. The City of Lethbridge is also home to the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III.”

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

E. Crane moved that the minutes of the October 14th, 2020 Heart of Our City Committee meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

C. Piedalue moved that the agenda be approved with the following addition:

- Lethbridge Police Service Update

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- Festival Square designs will be added to the December agenda.

5. IN CAMERA – Nothing to note

6. AGENDA ITEMS:

- a) Lethbridge Police Service (LPS) Update (M. Williamson):
- An arrest was made at the Coal Banks Inn and approximately \$25,000 in property was recovered.
 - Although the illegal pop-up injection site has not been seen recently, LPS been made aware that the group plans to rent a commercial store front; this is on Administrations radar.
- b) Membership Update:
- D. Leite is no longer with Allied Arts Council and T. Gillanders will be taking over as the Allied Arts Council representative on the HOC Committee.
 - Councilor M. Campbell will Chair the November and December meeting and a new Chair will be elected at the January meeting. Anyone who is interested in putting their name forward can do so by e-mailing A. Malcolm.
- c) Lethbridge Pickleball Club Request of Letter of Support:
- The Pickleball Club is looking for a permanent site and is preparing a CIP submission for funding to establish one in the NW corner of Galt Gardens.
 - Information with regards to their CIP submission was attached for committee review and points of discussion were as follows:
 - There is concern that large wind fencing would be a visual obstruction to the park.
 - Would there would be security in place and who would be responsible?
 - The courts may limit other potential pop-up events.
 - Who would be responsible for maintenance?
 - Concern around limiting potential opportunity for other “court” groups. If funding was available maybe putting out a RFP with regards to courts and then evaluate which group would be best suitable for the park would be considered.
 - J. Stambene moved that the Heart of Our City Committee does not provide a letter of support to the Lethbridge Pickleball Club.
- CARRIED**
- A. Malcolm will touch base with the Governance Review consultants to see whether or not they have any suggestions on how the HOC could approach these requests going forward.
- d) City Council Standing Committee Presentation – Councillor B. Crowson:
- At their November 2nd, 2020 meeting, Council unanimously adopted recommendations, as amended from the Open and Effective Governance Committee regarding committee governance initiatives. Effective January 1st, 2021 changes will include:
 - Reducing Councillor appointments on Boards, Commissions and Committees (BCC) and possibly replacing them with citizen or administrative members;
 - Implementing a Standing Policy Committee Structure; and
 - Regular written reporting from the BCCs to SPCs
 - HOC will be reporting to Civics Works and there will no longer be a Councillor representative on the HOC.
 - Council meetings will be moved to Tuesdays and the Agenda Review Committee will meet on Mondays.
- e) Activity Grant:
- At the October 14th, 2020 HOC meeting a motion was passed to approve the following use of \$210,000 Activity Grant budget (combination of unutilized 2020 funds and 2021 funds).
 - \$90,000 for events approved in 2020 who intend on hosting their event in 2021 as per previous awarding with resubmitted application highlighting changes and revised budgets;
 - \$20,000 for new event applications submitted through a regular application process similar to past years;
 - \$10,000 for approved events (previous and new) to apply for additional funding to cover expenses for COVID-19 related safety expenses. Maximum of 10% of approved activity grant amount up to \$1,000; and

- \$90,000 for 2020/21 Outdoor Winter Festival with Artificial Outdoor Skating Surface in Downtown Core.
 - The motion from HOC was to approve the project in principle and further to request Economic Recovery Committee's (ERC) support to be then taken to City Council for support of fund changes.
 - As the ERC was not particularly in favour of utilizing \$90,000 for the purchase of the synthetic ice surface, Administrations recommendation is to move forward with the other three (3) recommendations and that the \$90,000 originally allocated for the Winter Festival and Outdoor Skating Surface be requested to be kept with HOC for future use on a future initiative.
 - The committee suggests using this additional time to create a strong foundation of sponsorships and corporate support and will reevaluate in the New Year once the Governance Review is complete.
- f) Personas Project:
- The Downtown Personas Final Report was attached for committee information and review.
 - A. Malcolm will work with the Complete Neighborhoods Subcommittee over the next several weeks to confirm the messaging and then share this with Communications to get it out to the public.
- g) Municipal Development Plan (MDP) – Opportunity for Feedback:
- The MDP is being updated by the Planning Department and the last feedback section on "Relationships" has been reopened to the HOC and BRZ for review.
 - The committee is asked to review the attachment and provide feedback to A. Malcolm. He will then summarize and share with the committee. As well, he will ask whether the Governance Review findings will be used to inform the MDP changes.

7. ROUNDTABLE:

- Lethbridge Historical Society (L. Johansen):
 - The AGM will be take place via zoom next week and is open to the public.
 - LHS is busy working on new podcasts, YouTube videos and books.
- Downtown BRZ (S. Kain):
 - Several upcoming events include The Outdoor Holiday Market, Black Friday Shopping Spree, Skating in the Square, Plaid Days, Christmas Drive-in, Beer Tours and World Junior Championships.

-S. Kain left the meeting at 5: 00 p.m.-

- Economic Development Lethbridge (E. Crane):
 - The Regional Skills Study has been completed and the information will be available on EDL's site soon.
 - The EDL, Lethbridge Chamber and Lethbridge Local Immigration are working together to see if challenges can be met with the newcomer's workforce.
- Tourism Lethbridge (J. Stambene):
 - A Strategic Planning Session with the Board of Directors took place yesterday.
 - The newly renovated Visitors Centre will be open tomorrow.
- Citizen-at-large (J. Head):
 - An election process is underway on the Reserve and next week a new Chief and Council will be elected.
- Citizen-at-large (M. Wiebe):
 - The U of L Advancement Office has been working on a program to get students into the downtown business area using commencement coins.
- Allied Arts Council (T. Gillanders):
 - Christmas at Casa will take place online and will run for twelve (12) days.

- Councillor (M. Campbell):
 - City Council will be reopening and reviewing the budget next week.

- Urban Revitalization Manager (A. Malcolm):
 - 3rd Avenue will be open to traffic by Friday.
 - Six (6) propane heaters, outdoor panels and wind screens have been purchased through the Parklet Program to assist businesses with their winter parklets.
 - The Province has announced rapid rehousing dollars however the process to get them up and running has been challenging.
 - The first mural has been approved and will go behind the old Ten Thousand Villages location.
 - The Owl is relocating to the old Thrift for Less location across from SAAG on 3rd Avenue.
 - December Meeting –Andrew will reach out to J. French to see if the Multicultural Centre would have a space for a socially distance December meeting.

ACTION:	<p>A. MALCOLM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add Festival Square designs to the December agenda. • Pickleball - Touch base with the Governance Review consultants to see whether or not they have any suggestions on how the HOC could approach these requests going forward. • Personas Project - Work with the Complete Neighborhoods Subcommittee over the next several weeks to confirm the messaging and then share this with Communications to get it out to the public. • MDP Update – Summarize committee feedback and share with the committee and ask whether the Governance Review findings will be used to inform the MDP changes. <p>HOC COMMITTEE - MDP Update - review the attachment and provide feedback to A. Malcolm.</p>
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8. NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, December 9th, 2020

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.