

ATTACHMENT 1

MINUTES of a meeting of the **HEART OF OUR CITY COMMITTEE**, held on Wednesday, October 14th, 2020, at 3:30 p.m., Zoom Conference Call with the following in attendance:

CHAIR: Dawn Leite, Allied Arts Council

MEMBERS: Mark Campbell, Councillor (Vice Chair)
Jackie Stambene, Lethbridge Destination Management Organization (LDMO)/Tourism Lethbridge
Jackie French, Southern AB Ethnic Association
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

OTHERS: Andrew Malcolm, Urban Revitalization Manager
Cidnee Lorenz, Recorder
Sergeant Mike Williamson, Lethbridge Police Service

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:

- C. Piedalue moved that the minutes of the September 9th, 2020 Heart of Our City Committee meeting be approved as presented. **CARRIED**
- E. Crane moved that the minutes of the October 7th, 2020 Heart of Our City Committee Special Meeting be approved as presented. **CARRIED**

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

J. Stambene moved that the agenda be approved with the following addition:

- Pickleball Club – Letter of Support Request **CARRIED**

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

- a. 2020/21 Activity Grant and Winter Festival/Skating Rink:
- The Exciting and Vibrant subcommittee along with the BRZ, reviewed various options and have made a recommendation to HOC. The application was reviewed and points of discussion were as follows:
 - HOC would provide funding of ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) for BRZ to purchase a synthetic ice rink and program one event per month December through April.
 - Project details, marketing and budget programming are included in the application.
 - Revenue opportunities include \$90,000 HOC Activity Grant, \$10,000 BRZ contribution, Board sponsorships, and \$10-25,000 from the Rotary Club.
 - Rink details include:
 - \$110,000 cost
 - Size 40 x 65 feet or smaller
 - Mobile
 - Fifteen (15) year life span
 - Can be used year round
 - Considerations include:
 - Endless opportunities
 - Security
 - Insurance
 - Expectations/deliverables/metrics
 - Sponsorship
 - J. French moved that the Heart of the City (HOC) Committee approve in principle the use of ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000) originally allocated to the Activity Grant Program to support the BRZ's request for an outdoor rink and programming. Furthermore, HOC requests the support of the Economic Recovery Committee and City Council for the use of funds in an alternative way than originally allocated. If supported, an agreement will be drafted to ensure appropriate usage and identify key metrics.
- CARRIED**
- A. Malcolm will arrange a time for a subcommittee representative to present to the Economic Recovery Committee and work on an agreement for next Thursday.

5. **IN CAMERA** – Nothing to note

- N. Chatur-Muhammad & L. Johansen left the meeting at 4:30 p.m. -

6. **AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. IDA Virtual Conference Professional Development Roundtable:
- Members that attended a session/s are asked to meet and make a short presentation at the next HOC meeting.
 - There is access to the session recordings for ninety (90) days.
- b. Letter of Support for Watch Program:
- The Watch Manager will be heading to Council next month to request ongoing funding for the next two (2) years. If they do not receive additional funding the program will cease in January.
 - The Clean and Safe subcommittee prepared a letter of support which was attached for committee information.
 - The final version of the letter was circulated on October 1st for email vote which resulted in eleven (11) in favour and none opposed.
- c. 5/10% Budget Reduction Update:
- The City Manager informed A. Malcolm that the Downtown Redevelopment Fund will not be effected by the reduction.
- d. Pickleball – Letter of Support Request:
- The Pickleball group has requested that the HOC consider providing them with a letter of support for their CIP application requesting a Pickleball Court in Galt Gardens.

- As per discussion, A. Malcolm will request that the group put together a short presentation for November's meeting and also provide the HOC with more information in writing in advance of the presentation.
- e. Subcommittee Updates:
 - Updates were attached for committee information and points of interest were as follows:
 - Complete Neighborhoods - The subcommittee met to review the final draft of the Downtown Personas Project and the final deliverable will be prepared for the last week of October.
 - Exciting and Vibrant:
 - Celebrate Downtown:
 - All videos were launched the week of October 5-9th.
 - The City webpage has been updated and a news release will go out this week.
 - People's Choice voting closed yesterday and will be presented at a later date.
 - Governance and Strategy:
 - Governance Review – The research phase is almost complete and the recommendation stage will begin shortly.

7. ROUNDTABLE:

- Lethbridge Police Service (LPS) Update (M. Williamson):
 - Three (3) new Community Peace Officer's (CPO) will be joining the team by the end of the month and five (5) new CPO's are currently in training.
 - LPS has been busy with the unsanctioned pop-up site and are working closely with the City.
 - Encampment - Although LPS can enforce the bylaws, they do not have legal authority to take down a tent.
- Downtown BRZ (S. Kain):
 - The BRZ is continuing to advocate for the Public Nuisance Bylaw to be pushed forward.
 - T. Stilson has announced his retirement and a hiring committee is reviewing applications for his replacement.
- Citizen-at-large (J. Head):
 - Reconciliation Week activities included presentations, contests and classes.
 - D. Leite will forward Jordan's contact information to Emily at BRZ to arrange possible winter programming and partnership.
- Southern AB Ethnic Association (J. French):
 - SAEA's AGM will take place tomorrow.
 - Taste of Nicaragua's meal pickup event will take place on October 23rd and tickets are available at the office.
 - A COVID Relief Assistance Program will start next week to assist members in need of support with forms, supplies and any other COVID related issues.
- Tourism Lethbridge (J. Stambene):
 - Indoor and outdoor renovations are being completed.
 - The Meet and Greet for new CEO, Jasmin Sangria took place at the Japanese Gardens.
 - TL has many new programs such as Food Truck Friday, Popup Cultural Connect and Snoga.
- Councillor (M. Campbell):
 - Mark took part in committee interviews last week and there were many good candidates.
- Economic Development Lethbridge (E. Crane):
 - Lethbridge's "rate of change" is showing lower than other municipalities.

- Labor Statistics show that the Lethbridge workforce number remains at 8.6% and unemployment is the lowest in the province, although part time employment has not yet bounced back.
- Allied Arts Council (D. Leite):
 - Arts Days was very successful and several activities were done outdoors.
 - Christmas at Casa will take place via an online platform.
 - Three (3) citizen-at-large positions will be appointed for January. In addition, election for Chair will take place in January and anyone interested can put their name forward to Andrew.
- Urban Revitalization Manager (A. Malcolm):
 - Public Nuisance Bylaw update meetings continue and should be moved forward to first reading by the end of the year. Andrew has been tasked with finding out the cost differential between CPO's, Bylaw Officers and Security.
 - City Lab, where students address a local problem related to the downtown will present their proposal in December.
 - The Main Street Program is fully subscribed and new applications won't be taken until the new year.
 - The Oliver Building has completed three (3) of their residential units and H. Heggie will be presented with ninety thousand dollars (\$90,000).
 - The murals are moving along with the first six (6) applicants.
 - Festival Square designs are finalized and will be brought forward in November.
 - Council approved the COVID-19 relief framework for a business or not for profit that is struggling.

ACTION:	<p>A. MALCOLM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Activity Grant/Winter Festival - Arrange a time for a subcommittee representative to present to the Economic Recovery Committee and work on an agreement for next Thursday. ● IDA Virtual Conference - Members that attended a session/s are asked to meet and make a short presentation at the next HOC meeting. ● Pickleball - Request that the group put together a short presentation for November's meeting and also provide the HOC with more information in writing in advance of the presentation. ● Bring forward the Festival Square designs in November. <p>D. LEITE - Forward Jordan's contact information to Emily at BRZ to arrange possible winter programming.</p>
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8. NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, November 18th, 2020

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 5:29 p.m.