

ATTACHMENT 1
Approved as presented March 9th, 2022

MINUTES of a meeting of the **HEART OF OUR CITY COMMITTEE**, held on Wednesday,
February 9, 2022, at 3:30 p.m., Zoom Conference Call
with the following in attendance:

MEMBERS:

Lorien Johansen, Lethbridge Historical Society (Chair)
Tara Gillanders, Allied Arts Council
Penny Warris, Citizen-at-large
Jordon Head, Indigenous Representative
Dominika Wojcik Lethbridge Chamber of Commerce
Mike Prociw, Economic Development Lethbridge
Daylyn Smolenski, Citizen-at-large
Sheri Kain, Downtown BRZ
Jackie French, Southern AB Ethnic Association

OTHERS:

Andrew Malcolm, Urban Revitalization Manager
Sarah Amies, Downtown BRZ Community Director
Sgt. Mike Williamson, Lethbridge Police Service
Kelti Baird, HOC Member Pending Council Approval

REGRETS:

Ken Harvie, Development Industry
Kevin Brees, Citizen-at-large
Unfilled Position, Tourism Lethbridge

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 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. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a) Approval of Minutes
 - January 12, 2022 (Attachment 1)
- b) Adoption of Agenda
 - Remove item c) Neuron Micro-mobility and defer item to March

J. French moved, L. Johansen seconded that the consent agenda of the February 9th, 2022 Heart of Our City Committee meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED

3. IN CAMERA:

- a) N/A

4. AGENDA ITEMS:

- a) Membership

- J.Stambene, who was currently sitting as Vice-Chair, will no longer be representing Tourism Lethbridge on the HOCC. J.Stambene was thanked for her passionate contributions to the committee.
 - D.Wojcik was appointed Vice Chair for the remainder of 2022 by acclamation.
- b) Lethbridge Police Service Update
- Library and Park n Ride activity spiking of late.
 - Alpha House issues appear to be dropping slightly.
 - Reports of increased cases of homeless living in the River Valley – unverified by LPS at this time but they will be looking into it further.
 - Protests and convoys keeping LPS busy (not necessarily in DT)
 - Action List Request: Can LPS provide quarterly statistic reports to the Committee?
- c) Committee Chair Election
- In alignment with the Terms of Reference a Chair and Vice-Chair were selected by the committee for the next year. J.Johansen, as chair, and J.Stambene as vice-chair were both appointed by acclamation.
- d) Action Item Review
- ReImagine grant recipients have been notified and the media announcement has been put on hold for the moment.
 - BRZs Celebrate Downtown final report to be shared at a later date once the Strategic Road Mapping is complete to inform discussions on what to do regarding the event in 2022.
- e) 2023 – 2026 Operating Budget
- A.Malcolm provided a brief overview of the upcoming Operating Budget process to establish the budget for the next four years (2023-2026).
 - In the current operating budget (2019-2022) the 'Downtown Redevelopment Fund (DRF)' received \$540,000 annually for all operating aspects of revitalization but was limited to being spent within the boundaries of Downtown.
 - With the recent Council supported changes to the HOCC mandate to focus beyond the downtown on the larger urban core there will be a budget pressure as demand on the funds increases based on the larger geographic area it is intended to support.
 - Proposed changes for 2023-2026
 - Change the budget title from DRF to Urban Core Revitalization Fund
 - Simplify the budgets sub-categories from 4 (Clean and Safe, Welcoming and Attractive, Programming and Promotion, and Administration and Operations) to 2 (Welcoming and Attractive, and Administration and Operations) to be more flexible in spending. Further, Clean and Safe will be proposed independently by Community Social Development and hopefully funded outside of the DRF.
 - Change the approach to funding BIA operations in light of the recommendations of the HOC Governance review and high potential of a second BIA in the Warehouse coming to fruition in the next 4 years. Rather than providing small grants and Fee For Service for the ambassador program, a blanket 50% grant on the value of the levy would be issued to the BIA(s). A new initiative for an additional \$110,000 is being contemplated which would raise the overall revitalization operating budget to \$650,000 annually.
- f) Andrew's Corner
- Overview of upcoming capital projects that would be taking place over the course of 2022 including but not limited to:
 - 3rd Avenue Reconstruction Final Phases
 - Festival Square Market Plaza
 - Warehouse District ARP
 - Public Realm Enhancements

- SAAG Expansion

g) Member Reports

- None

ACTION:	A. MALCOLM: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reimagine Media Announcement• BRZ Celebrate Downtown Final Report circulation• Find out more about communities in bloom funding in the operating budget LETHBRIDGE POLICE SERVICE: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Look into whether LPS could provide quarterly statistic reports to the Committee
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5. NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held Wednesday, March 9th, 2022

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

7. FUTURE MEETINGS:

- a) HOC Community Engagement
- b) Celebrate Downtown