

**CITY OF LA CRESCENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 24, 2022**

**Members Present:** Sarah Danielson, Julie Hatlem, Cheryl Jostad, Brett Kemmer, Troy Nolop, Larry Stryker, Alan Voss

**Members Absent:** Lori Kadlec, Michael Welch

**Staff:** Bill Waller, Larry Kirch

**Guests:** None

1. Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Stryker at 3:03pm in City Council Chambers.
2. Agenda / Minutes.
  - a. Voss made a motion to accept the Agenda as submitted. Kemmer seconded. Motion passes 7:0.
  - b. Minutes were amended as follows. An "h" was added to Sarah Danielson's first name. An "l" was added to Troy Nolop's last name. Item 7 was amended to show adjournment at 5:05 as there are two conflicting times currently noted. Next meeting will be at 3:00pm rather than 4:00pm. Danielson made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Nolop seconded. Motion passes 7:0.
3. Introductions and Welcome. Larry Kirch was introduced to the commission via Zoom from his home in Arizona. Larry has an extensive government administration background, having served the City of La Crosse for 20 years followed by Apache Junction for 14 years, along with other career opportunities along the way. He intends to make Winona his home once his current obligations in AZ are complete. Board members present introduced themselves, including the length of time serving on the commission and business background.
4. Staff Report. Project List and Bike Trail Extension
  16. The Keep Company co-working space is being remodeled and a tentative open house will be set for February.
  22. City Attorney is drafting a joint powers agreement.
  23. City met with downtown restaurants to discuss goals and ideas for this project as well as the Walnut Street project (#11).
  14. Once Kirch is onboarded we will work to reestablish communications with Kwik Trip and potentially Springbrook.
  24. Waller reassigned to Angie Boettcher to complete.
9. Bridge contractor will resume work on the pedestrian bridge when weather allows. Estimate is March. The bridge span is begin manufactured and is expected to be delivered in May 2022. It will arrive in two pieces and the highway will be shut down for one night to allow for placement.

Nolop inquired about the City's plan to address the gap in funding between the grants received and cost. Waller indicated that the City will use State Aid as needed, but that the project has also had some cost savings as well.

10. Grant disbursement is in process.

11. Project slated for 2023 unless other funding options come into play. The scope of the project may change based on available grants

12 and 13. Grants have been secured, bids have been awarded, and our portion of the project is expected to be completed by 6/15/2022. We are also collaborating with the City of La Crosse on ways to connect the landing to the West Channel bridge.

17 and 17a. On hold

20. Development is virtually sold out at this time.

21. Waiting on availability of materials as well as advantageous pricing of those materials before beginning work.

5. Member Reports.

- a. Kemmer indicated that housing inventory remains soft. Rates are increasing. Kemmer also mentioned that ABLE residents are moving into their newest group living facility in the former Mayo Clinic building.
- b. Voss inquired about the housing development on North Ridge. Lots are selling. This development is within City Limits but does not connect to City water or sewer. The road is also privately maintained.
- c. Jostad had no report.
- d. Hatlem indicated that the Houston County Economic Development Authority has scheduled a tour of the Crest Precast plants in La Crescent. Owner Steve Mader also indicated that the business is at capacity and they need additional land.
- e. Stryker had no report.
- f. Nolop stated that the meeting between the downtown restaurants and the City regarding the Walnut Street project was very productive.
- g. Danielson had no report.

6. No other business.

7. Motion was made by Nolop to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Danielson. Motion passed 7:0 and meeting was adjourned at 3:56pm. Next meeting is on February 28, 2022 at 3:00pm in City Council Chambers.

Submitted by Sarah Danielson, Member