

**MEETING OF THE
LAWTON ENHANCEMENT TRUST AUTHORITY
3rd FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
CITY HALL
212 SW 9th STREET
MAY 12, 2021**

Richard Rogalski called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Conference Room of City Hall. Notice of meeting and agenda were posted on the City Hall notice board as required by law.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Jay Burk (arrived at 3:11 p.m.), Barry Ezerski, Lou McConnell, Katy Jackson-Seeley, Addie Smith, Kerry Sweeney, Ted Symuleski,

ABSENT: Mary Ann Hankins, Annette Wiseman-Vaughan

OTHER PRESENT: Richard Rogalski, City Manager's Office; Kaley Patterson, City Manager's Office; Corey Bowen, Neighborhood Services; Jeanette Klein, Children's United; Susan Schlecht, Finance; Charlotte Brown, License and Permits; Donalynn Blazek-Scherler, City Clerk's Office.

INTERIM CHAIR ELECTION:

With Chairman Burk absent, the authority took action to elect a Chair in his absence.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by Jackson-Seeley, to elect Barry Ezerski to act as Chair in the absence of Chairman Burk. **Aye:** Ezerski, McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

BUSINESS ITEMS:

1. Reports

- A. Receive report from Dennis Totte and take action if necessary.

Dennis Totte was not available to attend meeting. No report was given.

Chairman Burk arrived at 3:11 p.m.

- B. Receive report from Neighborhood Services.

Bowen gave report on Trash Off. He stated that \$450.00 was received in donations and 34.69 tons in trash were dropped off by residence. They are still calculating the tonnage

that was collected by volunteers in different areas of town and will report back with a number for that as well.

Bowen stated 1,639 correspondences have been sent out this month, and 49 properties would be going to Council for D&D. Parklane Elementary will be going to Council as well.

- C. Consider approving invoices, requisitions, and all other submitted materials for payment.

Schlecht stated there were no invoices for the month of April and gave report over the Balance Sheet as of April 30, 2021.

Motion by Sweeney, Second by Symuleski, to approve the April 2021 Balance Sheet. **Aye:** McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk, Ezerski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

- D. Receive Treasurer Report and take action as necessary.

Schlecht gave report over April 2021 Profit and Loss Statement, Income and Expense Tracker, and LETA Projects Pending.

Chairman Burk asked if it was possible to move monies budgeted for the Eye Candy Awards Banquet and Postage and Delivery to LETA Beautification Projects. There won't be a banquet this year and this will give a more balanced budget.

Motion by Sweeney, Second by Symuleski, to approve moving money on the Income and Expense Tracker from Eye Candy Awards Banquet and Postage and Delivery to LETA Beautification Projects. **Aye:** Jackson-Seeley, Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk, Ezerski, McConnell **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

Barry Ezerski exited the meeting at 4:22 p.m.

Motion by Symuleski, Second by Sweeney, to approve the Treasurer Report. **Aye:** Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk, McConnell, Jackson-Seeley **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

- E. Receive report from Cultural Preservation Committee and take action if necessary.

Patterson gave updated from CPC on recent discussions. She stated that CPC has a certified stone mason who has provided 3 different plans to fix the archway at Highland Cemetery that was damaged by a garbage truck. The first option would be to restore the arch to its original state with no changes to the structure. The front entrance under the archway would then be blocked off to vehicle traffic and it would be used solely as a pedestrian entrance. The second option is to re-enforce the arch in the back with steel and to restore to stonework on the front to its original state. This would allow the front entrance to remain open to vehicles. The final option is to lift the arch up using pillars and restore the stonework to its original state with no reinforcements. This option also leaves the front entrance open to vehicles. Patterson stated that CPC elected to restore the arch to its original state and close the entrance to vehicles.

Chairman Burk stated that he disagreed strongly with closing the entrance. He has family buried in Highland Cemetery and the front entrance is important. Families should not have to use the small side entrance to get into the cemetery to visit loved ones there.

Rogalski agreed and stated that the arch has been there for a very long time and has never been damaged before.

Brown agreed and stated that the garbage truck that hit the arch should have been using the side entrance because it has the appropriate clearance for large vehicles.

Rogalski stated that the archway is in the process of becoming a WPA property through the Historical Preservation Commission and they have an upcoming meeting to discuss the Highland Cemetery Archway.

Blazek-Scherler stated the meeting is tomorrow afternoon at City Hall.

Burk stated that a member of LETA should attend that meeting to ensure the Historical Preservation Committee is aware of LETA's view on how the arch should be restored.

Patterson gave CPC updates on the Carnegie Hall Library. CPC would like to turn the building into a museum about Lawton's history. The baby grand piano from the library has been moved to City Hall. An appraisal was done on the piano, and we are able to confirm that it is a baby grand, it needs to be tuned, and there is a broken latch on it. They are in the process of trying to find the original bench that goes with the piano. The current value is roughly \$15,000.00.

The original pews from Carnegie Library have been requested to be returned to the library to be stored there.

With renovations underway at City Hall, CPC is concerned about the proper care of items stored on the third floor. There is a room on the third floor that still has items from the old school, including busts and documents. Some of the items are still under the ownership of LPS, and ownership for those items either needs to be signed over to the City or items need to be returned to LPS.

Rogalski stated some of the pieces, like the bust of Christopher Columbus, could be donated to the museum for proper storage or display.

Brown stated that the room that these items are currently stored in is in a separate part of the 3rd floor and should be undisturbed by any renovations.

- F. Receive report from Children's United and take action if necessary.

Jeanette Klein gave updates on Children's United. She stated that after the passing of Joe Chesko, they have decided to keep Children's United going full force in memory of Joe. They have had to change the dates of some events, including the dance and the walk fundraiser. The change of dates puts the events closer together, and Klein stated she believes this will work out better.

- G. Receive report from Parks and Recreation and take action if necessary.

No one from Parks and Recreation was present to give report.

- H. Receive report from Public Relations, Website and Facebook Committees, and take action if necessary.

Patterson stated there has been a major increase in social media traffic for LETA on Facebook. There are 64 new members on the LETA Facebook page and the shares from the Trash Off Event from participating groups creating a lot of traffic.

Sweeney asked if LETA has an Instagram page.

Patterson said there is not currently a LETA Instagram, but that could do very well. Instagram would be a good platform for pictures of flowers and yard of the month winners.

- I. Receive Monthly Ward Update and take action if necessary.

Jackson-Seeley asked for clarification on what should be discussed under this agenda item.

Burk advised this is a time to discuss anything and everything that is going on in your ward.

- J. Receive a report from the Planning Division regarding ongoing LETA projects and take action if necessary.

Brown stated the fence work along Rogers Lane is almost completed. There are a few warped boards that still need to be done.

- K. Receive a report on sidewalk and accessibility projects and take action if necessary.

Sweeney stated she has concerns about the accessibility ramp located outside of the Leslie Powell Gallery. She stated the design of ramp creates a space that collects a lot of debris and leaves, so this is concerning to her.

It has been determined by the ADA coordinator that this sidewalk is up to compliance. Although he is aware of the issue with the debris, the sidewalk is still accessible, and responsibility would fall on the property owner to keep the ramp cleaned off.

2. New Business

- A. Consider approving the minutes of the March 10, 2021 and April 14, 2021 meetings.

Motion by Symuleski, **Second** by Sweeny, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2021 and April 14, 2021. **Aye:** Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk, McConnell, Jackson-Seeley. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

- ~~B. Discuss a proposed Eagle Scout project for Matthew Aguilar and take action if necessary.~~

Stricken. This item went before Council and does not need to be discussed.

- ~~C. Discuss lighting on C Avenue and take action if necessary.~~

Stricken. No action has been taken yet.

- ~~D. Discuss the Veteran's Brick Project and take action if necessary.~~

Stricken. No action has been taken yet.

- E. Consider ratifying the actions of the LETA chairperson in authorizing payment to the Lawton Rotary Club for US flags for medians.

Burk stated he has not been able to contact anyone to discuss the lease of flags.

Brown said she had spoken to someone at the Rotary Club, and the price is \$50.00 per flag.

Burk said he had driven down Cache to count how many flags would be needed for an offset pattern down both sides of the road. He stated he believes that would be about 70 flags, bringing the cost to \$3500.00.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by Jackson-Seeley, to approve the spending of \$3500.00 to Lawton Rotary Club for the rental of flags for one year. **AYE:** Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk, McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith

- ~~F. Discuss landscaping at Lawton Downtown Farmer's Market and take action if necessary.~~

Stricken. No action has been taken yet.

- G. Discuss updates on City Hall Lighting Projects to give to the McMahon Foundation and take action if necessary.

Rogalski stated this project is moving along. A new contract for the work will not be necessary as this project will be included in an existing contract.

- H. Accept nominations and choose winners for LETA Yard-of-the-Month for April and May and take action if necessary.

Pictures of the following addresses were submitted and reviewed as nomination for April and May LETA Yard-of-the-Month:

428 NW 56th Street
3105 NE 35th Street
5 NE 48th Street
1202 SW 25th Place
908 NW Ferris Avenue

The winning nominations for April were 428 NW 56th Street and 908 NW Ferris Avenue. The winning nomination for May was 5 NE 48th Street.

- I. Discuss landscaping color at the mall and take action if necessary.

Chairman Burk stated that FISTA has asked for assistance for the cost of landscaping at the mall. He said they have already made a lot of improvements both inside and outside of the facility. They are requested a \$10,000.00 to recoup some of the costs for landscaping that is already completed and some additional landscaping that needs to be done. This will be a one-time grant as FISTA has agreed to carry any remaining costs for landscaping.

Motion by Symuleski, **Second** by Sweeney, to approve a \$10,000.00 grant to FISTA for landscaping at the mall. **Aye:** Burk, McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

- J. Discuss amendment to the sidewalk design contract and take action if necessary.

Contract between LETA and CEC is available in the City Clerk's Office.

Chairman Burk signed a change order to modify the current sidewalk contract from \$25,000.00 for the design of Sheridan Road and Cache Road to an on-call basis, where each job no longer has to go out for bid. This will change the price to \$30,000.00.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by Symuleski, to approve change order to the current sidewalk contract. **Aye:** McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed**

- K. Discuss plans and cost estimates for Shepler Park repairs/redesign and take action if necessary.

Rogalski stated that cost estimates are not yet done. Each member received two plans from Kimley-Horn on potential repairs and redesign of Shepler Park. He requested these

be reviewed. Once a decision is made on which plan will be used, he will obtain a cost estimate for that plan.

Plans for Kimley-Horn are available in the City Clerk's Office for review.

~~L. Consider a request from CDBL to install a significant aesthetic landscaping feature at 900 Nw Rogers Lane (Storage R Us) in place of paying the fee in lieu of installing the sidewalk at the location and take action if necessary.~~

Stricken. Documents from CDBL have not been received.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by Jackson-Seeley, to approve the project to move forward and to authorize the City to send any necessary correspondence. **Aye:** Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk, McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**

3. Discussion

No discussion took place.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

Motion by Sweeney, **Second** by Symuleski, to adjourn the meeting of May 12, 2021. **Aye:** McConnell, Jackson-Seeley, Smith, Sweeney, Symuleski, Burk. **Nay:** None. **Motion Passed.**