

Lakeport Economic Development Advisory Committee (LEDAC) Meeting

City of Lakeport, 225 Park Street, Lakeport, CA

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

LEDAC Members Present: Bill Eaton, Pam Harpster, Christine Hutt, George Linn, Wilda Shock, Rebecca Southwick, Panette Talia.

City Staff: Margaret Silveira, Kevin Ingram.

Guests: Daniel Chance, Associate Planner, Community Development Department.

CALL TO ORDER; INTRODUCTIONS

Wilda Shock called the meeting to order at 7:34 a.m. Notes from the June 8, 2016 meeting were distributed.

STATUS REPORTS

1) Downtown Improvement Phase II

Daniel Chance, Associate Planner with the Community Development Department, outlined Phase II of the Downtown Improvement Plan. He indicated that when the project is complete, there may be a process allowing restaurants to place café tables on the sidewalks and businesses to host sidewalk sales outside their businesses. To date, most of the issues concerning the construction have occurred on the east side of Main Street. He stated that the project should be completed by the summer's end.

2) Lakefront Revitalization Plan

Chance provided an update on the Plan. Currently, City staff and the consultants, Design Workshop, are meeting with businesses and stakeholders to create a long-term economic plan. The consultants are capturing public comments in a variety of ways, including a booth in Library Park during one of the summer concerts. An economic feasibility/market assessment study is being drafted now. The second public forum is on August 31 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in City Hall. A survey is being conducted via Survey Monkey.

Shock stated that an environmental constraints analysis is being conducted by one of the consultants' sub-contractors. Margaret Silveira, City Manager, mentioned that zoning is particularly important to include open spaces on lakefront properties.

Chance indicated that the County of Lake Water Resources Department staff has been very supportive of the project. He indicated that the public will be heard in the open forums.

Announcements

Silveira shared that the City of Lakeport was awarded a **USDA Planning grant** to conduct a hotel development feasibility study.

Pam Harpster invited downtown business owners to her business for “Spin It for a Minute,” a fast **networking morning session**, 7:30-8:30 a.m. the first Thursday of each month. Coffee and morning snacks are provided and no membership fees are required. The networking event gives downtown businesses a chance to get to know one another and share concerns. Meet at 290 N. Main Street.

Silveira provided an update regarding the **Carnegie Library**. The elevator/lift installation should be complete by year-end. One restroom will become ADA-compliant and a railing will be added to the front staircase to provide safe access. The City placed money in the upcoming budget to repair the ceiling on the second floor. While the lower level will continue to be used for City storage, the remainder of the building’s purpose has yet to be determined. Shock stated that once the building is accessible, the public will be able tour the upstairs space and imagine possibilities for potential uses.

Shakespeare at the Lake, presented by Mendocino College and the Lake County Theatre Company, took place in cooperation th the City of Lakeport in Library Park on July 30 and 31. The production was a success and the college is considering doing a performance next year.

Silveira spoke about placing a **sales tax measure** on the ballot this coming November. If the vote passes, this will increase the sales tax in Lakeport to 8.75%. Approximately 75-80% of the money will come from non-residents and the City believes that this is the most equitable way to share resources. This sales tax would cost \$59/person a year on average. The tax increase would provide an additional \$1.5 million in annual revenue.

LEDAC endorsed the request from the Chief of Police to support an application for federal funding for the **Lakeport Proactive Policing Project**. The grant would provide funding for an additional officer to work in the downtown Lakeport area and remain in close contact with the business community. The Chief will present this project to LEDAC if the grant is approved.

LAKEPORT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN

Kevin Ingram, Community Development Director, presented the **Lakeport Economic Development Strategic Plan 2016-2021** along with a fully detailed logic model.

The Plan includes the following goals:

- Goal 1: Promote and participate in regional economic development initiatives
- Goal 2: Expand and support business retention and attraction efforts
- Goal 3: Strive to enhance the historic downtown and lakefront areas

Each one of these goals was placed into the logic model. A SWOT for the City of Lakeport, developed by LEDAC earlier this year, was appended. Group discussion followed. Shock requested that LEDAC members forward comments to Ingram concerning the City’s Strategic Plan.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Notes by Rebecca Southwick/Wilda Shock