

LEDAC Meeting Notes
March 11, 2020
Lakeport City Hall

1. Call to order, introductions at 7:35 a.m.

Bill Eaton, Candy De Los Santos, Barbara Clark, Machiko Shimada, Denise Combs, Stacey Caico, Laura McAndrews Sammel, Wilda Shock, Margaret Silveira, Kevin Ingram, Melissa Fulton, Nancy Ruzicka.

2. Update on City projects and activities: Margaret Silveira, Kevin Ingram

City received grant of \$5.9 million from Proposition 68 funds which will be used to implement the park project at Natural High site that was selected during last year's community engagement forums and concerts in the park. It will have an amphitheater, basketball courts, skate park, splash pads, ninja gym, large picnic area that can be reserved, and a permanent seaplane dock. It has to be complete by June 2022. It will be a challenge, but we will be working to get the finalized plans. We are currently closing the negotiations to purchase the Natural High property from the school district. Melissa confirmed with Margaret that the Seaplane Splash In can still take place, regardless of the ownership of the property. Margaret agreed that the Splash In should continue and the City will continue to support.

The seawall in Library Park is almost complete. Margaret is pleased with the contractor. There will be a promenade that extends from First Street to beyond the Natural High property.

Carnegie Library: Margaret is working to get the ceiling repaired so that it can be open to the public.

Community Center: Next Tuesday (March 17) a fee structure and draft policy will be brought before the council for approval. Once this happens, we'll be able to open it to the public as is. Tables and chairs have been ordered for 100, which will be available for an additional fee to renters; seated capacity is 300. Margaret applied for a planning grant to get professional assistance to make improvements to the interior which needs work. She wants to have it open during PSPSs to offer public assistance for folks that need to plug in their medical devices, for example.

Kevin and Nancy Ruzicka have been working on getting some retail replacement for the Kmart space and other retail locations in Lakeport.

3. Member Reports

CareerPoint Lake: – Candy: National Dislocated Worker Program: There are about 17 workers doing projects around the city (Library Park, Westside Community Park, Natural High, Forbes Creek). They're on for 3 to 4 months, depending on the project. There is a \$1.2 million grant from the Workforce Alliance of the North Bay (WANB). They are seeking more youth for their youth program. There needs to be barriers to qualify. We're looking for companies to take youth in to give them work experience (we pay the wages). We're going to have a job fair for all job seekers and all employers, but the focus will be to place those with disabilities into jobs (April 22 at Twin Pine Casino & Hotel). Melissa would like to work with CareerPoint to get the word out to businesses. She asked for testimonials from employers that have benefited from the program.

Workforce Alliance of the North Bay: Stacey - she is building a business contact list with email addresses. She wants to identify businesses with the most urgent workforce needs so that we can follow up.

Lake County Chamber of Commerce: Melissa – We are very pleased with the outcome of our 2019 champion projects: Lake County Broadband Solutions, worked with County of Lake and remodeled a pilot’s lounge at the airport (there will be a ribbon cutting on Saturday, April 4). Inside the lounge, pilots have access to Destination Magazines, brochures, and rack cards so that they can arrange for transportation and plan for what they want to do. Splash In will take place on September 19 (same weekend as City of Clearlake Celebration and Lake County Wine Auction). Bass Tournament coming up next month (April 21 and 22).

Champion project 2020: working with youth to improve the health of Lake County women and children. Adventist Health and other agencies helping with this.

Second Annual Rhythm and Brews happening this summer. We’re looking to bring a lot of folks in from out of the county.

Mendocino College: Machiko – We have some turnover with resignations from Judy Kanavle (Director) and Eileen Lucas (Center Assistant). The deadline for Judy’s position is March 20. The deadline for the assistant position is sooner.

Dual enrollment: at Upper Lake, Clear Lake, and Kelseyville High Schools. Transfer and vocational pathways. The classes are rotated to the high schools. There are also classes being offered at the Lake County jail. We have some special programs for students such as EOPS, financial aid counseling, food pantry, lending library, strengthening the tutoring program, free passes for Lake Transit, ESL, prereq courses for the PTA program (held on the Ukiah campus).

LMSA: Denise – Panette Talia has resigned as ED and Maureen Brasier has been appointed. Denise will be managing the database. Maureen will be the face of LMSA. The next event is the St. Patrick’s Day Pub Crawl on March 14 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. LMSA will taking over from the Lake County Chamber and organizing the parades on Memorial Day and Fourth of July.

City: Margaret - there is now an EV charging station in the City Hall parking lot, which is very popular. There is an upcoming tour of the water plant scheduled. Out Smart Disaster Council: a 16-week course for businesses to mitigate impact of emergencies. Napa and Sonoma are the pilot counties for this program.

Business Walk: Denise – there is a meeting today directly following LEDAC. We were thinking of taking a different approach this year – maybe an online survey or a more focused group. How do we collect the information and then respond to it? Denise opened the floor for discussion. Bill: there isn’t a list of current contact information. Stacey shares this frustration. For every 100 invites you sent, you’ll get 15-20 responses. Margaret wants to be cognizant that we’ll get a different response from an owner vs. a clerk. She suggests taking a break on the survey this year and making appointments for one-on-one discussions. Candy would like to have more specific questions. Melissa – it’s difficult for us to guess what kind of training employers want.

ARTWalk planned for Friday, May 22, from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. with the focus on the murals in the downtown area and the muralists that painted them. Collaborative event with City, Lake County Winery Association, Lake County Arts Council, Lake County Rural Arts Initiative and the Middletown Art Center as sponsors.

Farm to Table dinner on Sept 12 (Harvest Uncorked) on the lakefront in Library Park – wine pairings with small plates. Also a picnic basket option. The Lake County Winery Association is on board for two years to get it started before they move the event to different locations around the county. City of Lakeport will organize a local event after that.

City Ordinances: Kevin – thinking about having a retail-only ordinance and having some sort of impact on the number of vacant store fronts, such as dressing them up with art. In Kelseyville, there are weekly emails listing their events and when there is an event, their doors are wide open. We're looking at different ways improve the situation in Lakeport and working more closely with the LMSA on this effort. The housing element of the City's General Plan is being sent to the state as part of the regular updating process.

Meeting adjourned at 9:08 a.m.

Submitted by
Laura McAndrews Sammel
Wilda Shock