

LCTV ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD

For the Meeting of Tuesday, July 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

Present: CITY OF LOWELL Dan Brubaker, Barb Barber, Sharon Ellison,
Dennis Kent

LOWELL CHARTER TOWNSHIP Bill Thompson, Sue Simmonds

VERGENNES TOWNSHIP Tim Wittenbach

Also Present: City Manager Dave Pasquale

Item #1. THOMPSON MOVED, KENT SUPPORTED a request by Brubaker that we revise the agenda to include a public comments time. Motion carried.

Item #2. ELLISON MOVED, THOMPSON SUPPORTED to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2009 meeting as corrected. Motion carried.

Item #3. PUBLIC COMMENTS WERE HEARD REGARDING SEVERAL APPLICATIONS THAT HAD BEEN ELIMINATED IN THE JULY 7 MEETING. Jim Hall and Greg Canfield spoke as representatives from the Lowell Light and Power Board regarding their application. They said they had read the minutes from the July 7 meeting on the Internet and were questioning why their application had been removed from consideration. When asked, Hall stated he wasn't sure if LL&P manager Greg Pierce had looked into other sources of funding for their project, such as state and federal government programs, or not.

Pasquale mentioned that the City is not raising the water and sewer rates because of the economy, and that just this week a community church was paying the utility bills for a family in need. So there are other sources of funds for the charitable needs of the community.

Brubaker asked if anyone wished to make a motion to add the Lowell Light and Power request back onto the list. No motion was made.

Item #4. SCORING THE REMAINING APPLICATIONS was achieved by listing them on the board, ranked in the order of the votes received, 1 through 10. Board members then voted again listing their preference in order 1-10, 1 being the highest. Viewing the results, Brubaker then stated the board should decide which applications were to be eliminated to get closer to the goal of \$50,000 total funding.

THOMPSON MOVED AND WITTENBACH SUPPORTED to eliminate Our Love Skate Park from consideration. Motion carried.

ELLISON MOVED AND BARBER SECONDED to eliminate the request for Lowell High School Championship Signs. Motion carried.

THOMPSON MOVED AND SIMMONDS SUPPORTED to reduce the amount requested (\$19,400) by Flat River Outreach Ministries to \$10,000 for this project. And we would ask that if this decision is accepted by the Council, that the City state, in their letter to F.R.O.M., that due to limited funds this year, they are invited to apply for the other half next year.

Brubaker and Ellison both abstained from voting on this issue because they were working on a fund raiser for the organization and felt there might be a perceived conflict of interest. Motion carried.

BARBER MOVED AND KENT SUPPORTED to remove the Creekside Baseball Field improvement request from the list, with the notation that the Board hopes that they apply again next year. Motion carried.

THOMPSON MOVED AND BARBER SUPPORTED to fund the remaining six items on the list. Motion carried.

Pasquale stated he would make sure the board members received a copy of the financial report from the Grand Rapids Community Foundation.

The City Manager will also prepare a report of the Board's recommendations to be given to the City Council for the August 3 Council meeting. Pasquale suggested that several of the board members attend that meeting in case they have questions.

Based on a lengthy discussion on how the decision process went this year, Thompson suggested that in the future it would be a good idea that they *not* vote to eliminate any applications, but to rank them instead, then at the final meeting vote to eliminate any that do not have enough support.

Item #4. LCTV ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Gilda's Club Grand Rapids, Lowell Program, Phase I	\$10,000
2. Lowell Area Recreational Authority, Connecting Lowell Area Trailways	\$15,000
3. LAPAC – Lowell Area Schools, Public Access Channel Enhancement	\$10,750
4. City of Lowell, Englehardt Public Library Roof	\$10,000
5. Rotary Club of Lowell Community Foundation, Richard's Park Project	\$ 5,000
6. Lowell Charter Township, CDBG Sidewalk project	\$ 4,000
7. Flat River Outreach Ministries, Heating/AC Unit Replacement	<u>\$10,000</u>
	\$64,750

Item #5 ELLISON SUBMITTED A SAMPLE LETTER to Pasquale who stated that after the Council makes their final decision, the City would notify each applicant in writing regarding their request for funds.

Brubaker stated the first meeting in 2010 would be held in March. At that time the board will review the finances and set timelines for applications and schedule meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Daniel Brubaker, Chair

Barb Barber, Secretary

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