

Community Improvement Advisory Committee
Feb. 25, 2019
6:00pm
Lowell Community Center

Attendees: John Cantrell, Michelle Sebastian, Candy Funderburk, Bob Mulholland, Ruth Everhart, Anne Massey, Thomas Gillespie and Martha Burris.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Bob asked for everyone to review the last meeting's notes.

Joining the CIAC were residents Eliza Williamson and Jean Wilson, both of whom shared information about the areas of Lowell known as "The Flats" and "The Knob". Historically these two areas were developed primarily by the African American Community. (The area near Hudson Park (along South Main St.) is the region of "The Flats". When South Main St. was zoned commercial many of the residents were dispersed to other areas. Thomas Gillespie is heading up an initiative to remember the community and the families that once called the area home, by requesting a historic marker to be installed. Thomas presented the idea to the last City Council meeting. The project is in the "fact gathering" portion, and Scott will have a conversation with a representative from the Historic Preservation Department. The CIAC will be discussing further how we can support this project. More to come.

In 2014 a community survey was completed to gather data about what changes/improvements the citizens of Lowell would like the then newly formed Master Planning Committee (now the CIAC) to consider. We looked back at that original survey and discussed possible projects or initiatives to consider as we move forward. Some of the items included in the discussions (new and old) were as followed:

- The elimination of the siren at the Fire Station. There are other means of communication to let emergency personnel know that they are needed. People that reside near the Fire Station are disturbed often by the loud sound.
- Updates to City Hall which may include pressure washing the building, painting the building, new landscape, and a replacement for the current ramp/railing.
- Investigating transportation and movement in Lowell and revisiting an earlier study (Downtown Lowell Transportation Study) on this topic. This survey provided data and recommendations regarding transportation, parking and movement around the downtown area.

Bob will also be in communication with Kevin Krouse, City Manager, to see how the projects/initiatives align with by laws and mission statement for the CIAC.

Bob is in the process of finalizing the purchase of the spring time flays. The vendor who will be making them is Downtown Decorations.

The American Flag project will have room for 60 names on the plaque that will be displayed in the Lowell Community Center. John, Ruth and Pam will be working on the plaque that will honor those named in this project.

Scott will now heading up the Business and Building Inventory. Once again, thanks to John for all the time and energy he put into gathering and organizing the data/information.

Soon the community will see the new springtime banners in town.

The next CIAC meeting will be March 25 at the Lowell Community Center. A motion was made and passed to close the meeting.