



**Agenda for January 21, 2020
Emerson Elementary Library
6:30 PM**

Welcome and Introductions (6:30)

Eric, Timm, Nora, Tim, Barb, Larry, Maureen (County Board), Ruth, Michele

❖ *Introduce GENA Officers for 2020:*

- *Chair: Timm Holt,*
- *Vice Chair: Eric Garland*
- *Secretary/Treasurer: Michele Ericsson*
- *Media Secretary: Joey Rampolla*
- *Member-at-Large: Wade Miller*
- *Past Chair: Nora Garland*

Support Administration (6:40)

- ❖ *Approve Minutes:* Uncertain if quorum was met. Approval was tabled until next meeting.
- ❖ *Present Treasurer's Report:* Tabled until next meeting.

Strengthen Relations (6:45)

- ❖ *2020 Action Plan discussion prior to approval in February (worksheet)*
 - Handout given for review.
 - Read through 2019 Accomplishments.
 - Reviewed the list Nora and Eric filled in for 2020 Activities. Feedback Requested.
 - Discussed educating students and making it easier for them to be counted in La Crosse on the 2020 Census.
 - A UW-L writing class offered to work with GENA on a "Welcome" brochure.

- Discussed using a rummage sale as a GENA fund raiser. Likely in conjunction with regular household rummage sales. Possibly in fall to catch students moving in.
- Those present expressed a general desire to increase the social aspect of GENA.
- The Board will finalize this Action Plan for approval in February to then present to the city.

❖ *Suggestions for annual budget to be presented for approval in February*

- Determined that any changes to the previous budget will come from finalization of the 2020 Action Plan.

Engage Members (7:00)

❖ *La Crosse Street project update (Barb)*

- The February meeting has been pushed to March.
- Pete Bemis has been actively involved in the planning. He is a landscape architect with extensive experience in La Crosse and has made progress promoting bio cells and appropriate plantings for the project.
 - There was further discussion about ensuring good soil is used so trees grow and weeds don't.
- Additional advocates are welcome for other aspects of the project concerning GENA.

❖ *Crowley Park Playground surface (Eric)*

- Eric and Julia J will meet with Lea from the Park Department.

❖ *West Avenue intersections (??)*

- Tim attended the meeting and relayed the possible changes:
 - West Ave and La Crosse St – Traffic lights will be replaced with those mounted on heavier duty horizontal arms.
 - West Ave and Badger St – Rapid flashing beacons will be added to both sides of Badger.
 - West Ave and King St – King will be closed off to car traffic crossing West. A rapid flashing beacon and island refuge median will be added for bike/pedestrian crossing.
 - West Ave and Jackson St -. Traffic lights will be replaced with those having pedestrian crossing countdown signals.

❖ *City Parking Study Input*

- GENA received an email from Parking Utility Coordinator Greg Elsen regarding a downtown parking study being done with consultants. He is requesting that a GENA representative schedule a meeting to give input on all parking related issues.

❖ *Additional Topics Raised*

- A resolution is going before the Finance & Personnel Committee on February 6th regarding a lease agreement for additional Senior Programming space. Concern was raised over the cost of renting this new space. Additional info may be found here: <http://cityoflacrosse.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=4309788&GUID=552C3B36-4D0E-4964-99C6-4D635BB554B9&Options=&Search=>
- The deadline for neighborhood Capital Improvement Plan requests is February 15th. (earlier than previous years). Discussion ensued about using last year's list. GENA asked Tim (of the Planning & Development Department) to provide a list of area Street projects already planned so as not to duplicate.

Open Forum

Thank-Yous: Nora!

For the Good of the Neighborhood:

Upcoming Meetings and Event

February 18, 2020:

Caroline Gregerson from City Planning/Community Development to share City-wide Survey results for GENA

(Spring Primary: Everyone Vote!)

March 17, 2020:

Lisa Klein bring new UWL Police Chief to meet GENA

April 21, 2020

May 19, 2020