The semi monthly meeting for the LaCrosse Community Pride met on 1/31/2025, with members Paige Collins, Charmaine DeSpain, Sarah Kane, Kenny Spain, Jamie Camp, Nick Backman (Zoom), Leann Roberts, and Alice Hopkins present.

 The minutes did have a correction on the statement about the Thrift Store. The ownership does need to go from a nonprofit organization to another nonprofit organization. It was stated that it didn't have to be a nonprofit to take ownership. Paige Collins moved to approve the minutes as corrected, Charmaine DeSpain seconded, motion carried.

The update on the Andrus Building was given by Sarah Kane. Darin Barry is in the process of reconnecting the HVAC. There is interest in buying/renting the building. It does need to be a business in order to keep the grant money. There is a local shelving business, Wendy Mason & Rob Smith owners, who would like to have a tour of the Andrus Building, Sarah Kane will arrange a time for this. LCP will need to determine a fair market value for the building before offering it for sale.

Leann Roberts gave an update on the Apartment Building. She reported on the bids that were given by TNA, and Nolan's. TNA gave a bid of $3500, and Nolan's bid was for $1800. This was for a 1 year contract where they would come and service the apartment 2x's/year. Also, Nolan gave a bid for servicing the store, cafe, rock houses for $2996 with a 24 hr emergency call service. Sarah Kane would like to get a contract with Nolan's for their service. Leann Roberts also reported that the work done by Shane Dobbs on Apt.#6 (door), and the Rock House (bathroom door) was completed, but the work was unsatisfactory. Jamie Camp did pay for the work done since Sean Dobbs wanted to be paid for the work that he did.

Leann Roberts would like to attend the 2025 Washington Affordable Housing Management Convention in Seattle WA., on April 15-16th. Cost would be $530. It was agreed to have Leann Roberts attend.

Bookkeeper Jamie Camp offered to volunteer her time instead of being paid her monthly salary of $500/month to help save money for LCP.

We do have a signed contract with Meemaws Hometown Kitchen. Elise Stevens will help in trying to find a hood that would work for the Cafe. The Port of Whitman called Angela Bennett (LaCrosse Town Clerk) to see where they could help in LaCrosse. She stated that the Cafe is in need.

The house that had the Food Bank, is being donated to LCP by David and Renee Todd. House is located at 110 N Main St. LaCrosse Wa Land transfer  completed on Jan 22, 2025.

The Thrift Store is still available to LCP. There are some issues with the current nonprofit business that needs to be cleared up before any transactions can be done.

Kenny Spain did sign for the loan extension (90 days) for the Andrus Building. Interest is due, $1900. Wants to put the $50,000 grant money on the loan ($100,000) to pay it down to $50,000.

Sarah Kane presented the 2025 Budget. Paige Collins moved to approve the budget, Charmaine DeSpain seconded, motion carried.

LCP is looking for new people who may be interested in becoming involved. Everyone is encouraged to bring names to the next meeting.

Sarah Kane stated that her family will be busy in the month of March. She asked if we could only meet once during March.  It was agreed to meet on March 19, 2025 at 7:00 am.

No updates on the Gas Station project. There was another window that was broken out. There is an issue with some local dogs that are going over to the Gas Station/Rock Houses that is causing a mess that needs to be cleaned up.

Paige Collins reported that Senior Lunches will start back up on 02/20/2025 at the LaCrosse High School. The Food Pantry will be opened to the Seniors as well.  Seniors are eating with the students during their lunch period. RSVP at Carter's Food if interested.

A road trip was suggested to go see Meemaws Hometown Kitchen in Union Or to see what it looks like. Paige Collins suggested getting a Coast Van to take interested board members.

Sarah Kane reported that the leasess come due in February. She would like to see an increase in rent to adjust for the increases in utility cost.

No further business was discussed, Jamie Camp moved to close meeting, Charmaine DeSpain seconded, motion carried.

Next meeting will be 02/14/2025 at 7:00 am.

Submitted by: Alice Hopkins Reporter/Secretary