The semi monthly meeting for the LaCrosse Community Pride met on 01/17/2025, with members, Sarah Kane, LeAnn Roberts, Paige Collins, Nick Backman (Zoom), Charmaine DeSpain, Alex McGregor and Alice Hopkins present.

Officers for 2025 are: Alex McGregor President, Charmaine DeSpain Vice President, Paige Collins Treasurer, Jamie Camp Bookkeeper and Alice Hopkins Reporter/ Secretary. Nick Backman offered to take an office in 2026.

Discussion on the Thrift Store house continued. If LCP took over the house, we could possibly sell the lot to get rid of it. It was determined that it did not have to be a non profit business to take possession of the property since the original non profit dissolved. Alex McGregor suggested to inform the Town of LaCrosse, that LCP has our hands full with current projects that need to be completed.  Therefore LCP will continue to say no to taking over the ownership of the Thrift Store house.

The Andrus Building is almost done, but still needs to be painted. There was left over paint from the Apartments, and in the Andrus Building. Darin Barry has agreed to do the painting to get the building done.  Alex McGregor offered to contact Kylie Pietila (owner of Coco Bee/Annie Ruth) to see if she would reconsider renting to own the building. Sarah Kane suggested selling the building, if anyone would be interested.  The loan was due January 1, 2025, the Bank of Eastern Washington extended the loan for another 30 days, but the interest will still be due.

Alex McGregor stated the money is still being earned through B&O taxes.  Sarah Kane has sent letters out to businesses to create interest in this. Alex McGregor hopes to be able to help write a letter on what is new with LCP, currently a semi-monthly update is being put into the LaCrosse Clipper.

LeAnn Roberts gave her update. There are apartments available to be rented. She said that the security cameras have been installed, and the dryer has been fixed. Annual maintenance quotes have been requested from Ackermans and Nolan Heating for review. Nick Backmsn suggested using a key card to be used to see who is using the washer/dryer.  LeAnne Roberts has looked into this at Lowes with the cost of $144.00. Josh Chastain put in a quote of $11,000.00 for the bathroom in apt. #4, this covered the wall, floor and tub removal. This was considered too high, and Darin Barry agreed to fix it for us. There is still a bathroom door that needs to be replaced by The Rock Houses.

Paigh Collins is working on getting a bid for a hood in the Cafe'. There is an issue with the ceiling height with installation being too low. The cost of the hood ranges from $20-30,000. Still looking for a used hood that would work for us. It will be necessary to get the Cafe' put back together before Elise Stevens from Meemaw's Hometown Kitchen to move in.

The LaCrosse Business group asked Sarah Kane if they could use the upstairs of Carter Foods to store extra things.  All records are locked up, so there would be no issue with them going up there and storing things.  It was agreed to let them have a key to use.

Alex Mcgregor reported that the Gas Station (Rock Houses) need to be done by June 2025 for the grant money from the Historical group. This would make it so we would be able to get more money for this project. Alex McGregor knows of contractors to get this done.

The EV charger has been used during the holidays.  We will need to put up signage to let people who drive by know where it is located and available for use.

No further business was discussed, motion to close meeting by Charmaine DeSpain, seconded by Alice Hopkins, motion approved.

Submitted by: Alice Hopkins Reporter/Secretary