
La Crescent Outdoor Performance Venue

09.06.2022 Update

Project Background/History

In December of 2021, the La Crescent Lions Club started exploring what is involved in getting a bandshell built in the city. Members of the club had expressed an interest in creating an outdoor/park venue for local musicians to display their talents. The greater purpose of a bandshell, though, is really to bring community together for an evening of enjoyment of the arts, relaxation, and enjoyment of visiting with friends and neighbors. Knowing this is a big undertaking, the Lions asked Rotarians and other community members to be part of the planning team.

What has been discovered, so far, is there is much more involved than just a bandshell structure – where best to locate this, cost to build, adequate parking, restrooms, fund raising, scheduling performances, covering costs of operation, maintenance, creating a web page for announcements/promotions, name of venue, etc.

With all this in mind though, a bandshell brings enhancements to the city. Not only a place for the community to gather in a park for enjoyment of music or other entertainment (not a ‘bar scene’) but also for weddings, pictures with Santa, family reunions, incorporation of possible Farmers Market, starting and ending point for hiking one of our community parks, focal point of biking events hosted by our community, etc. Our thinking is this structure could be the center point of a theme the city can leverage to make us a destination point - As you may know, La Crescent is ranked in the top ten small cities in the United States! There are so many possibilities if we want to pursue it.

Mission Statement

Creating community connections through enjoyment of the arts.

Proposal

Design, build, and manage an outdoor venue to support performances and community events.

Project Areas of Focus for Subcommittees

- Marketing and Communications (print materials, website, logo, venue name, branding, social media, etc.)
- Finance and Fundraising (set up bank account, business/corporate sponsors, research grant availability, etc.)
- Facility Design/Site Selection/Construction (identify requirements, research options, work with engineering firm/architect, select contractors, etc.)
- Long-range plan for Sustainability (event planning, build out 2023 performance series, determine types of entertainment to be performed/other uses for the facility, etc.)
- Other?

As you can see for this project to be successful, now and into the future, it will require dedicated effort from many people.

We are hopeful that you will consider joining us on a subcommittee to support this community venue. **We need enthusiastic volunteers with a passion for the arts to make this successful.**

Phase One

Provide enjoyment of the arts in 2023. With no structure ready, we are pursuing assorted entertainment at various locations within La Crescent, and will be scheduling times throughout Spring, Summer, and Fall. There is much planning ahead for this to happen. Please join us!

Steering Committee

Dean Bergstrom, Dave Ebner, Chris Fortsch, Vanessa Machado, Patti Martell, Randy Rosenberg, and Ron Wilke

To contact us, our email address is: friendsofLCOPV@gmail.com We look forward to hearing from you! When replying, please indicate which area of focus you are interested in helping with.