

# Neighborhood Group Leaders Association General Meeting Minutes

**Thursday, November 16, 2023**

Longmont Senior Center

1. **Call to Order:** 6:35 pm by Chairperson Stephanie Beck.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by Sharon O'Leary, 2nd by Rick Jennings; approved unanimously.
3. **Approval of the October minutes:** Motion made by Rick Jennings, 2nd by Sharon O'Leary; approved unanimously.
4. **Identification of new members and visitors:** Bruce McQueen, Harvest Junction.
5. **City Council Update:** Councilperson Susie Hidalgo-Fahring
  - New councilperson, Diane Crist, swearing-in and Tim Waters farewell first week of December.
  - Ballot initiatives that did not pass will be reviewed at an upcoming session.
  - Charges for cash-in-lieu of affordable/attainable housing units for new developments will increase.
6. **Public Safety Update:** None
7. **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION PRESENTATIONS**
  - a. **SUSTAINABLE RESILIENT LONGMONT** Board Chair Naomi Curling
    - Sustainable Resilient Longmont collaborates with the Longmont community to cultivate a sustainable and thriving city. As the hub for education, advocacy and action, we support the three pillars of sustainability: environmental protection, responsible economic growth and social equity.
    - Major events/focus: Earth Day, Renewable Energy, and Zero Waste
  - b. **WILD PLUM CENTER** Chief Development Officer Jennifer Clark
    - Established in 1968, 3 years after Head Start
    - Currently serving approximately 200 families and 260 children in 4 locations.
    - Philosophy: Wild Plum Center regards parents as the first, best and most important teachers of their children. We work with parents to enhance family strengths and address possible areas of need for the family as a whole. Wild Plum Center helps parents create promising futures for their children by taking steps toward their own self-sufficiency. Wild Plum Center believes all parents and families are important members of the community.
    - Mission: Wild Plum Center prepares children for a lifetime of learning and self-sufficiency by providing a comprehensive, individualized approach to early learning and family wellness.
    - Vision: Wild Plum Center envisions a future in which all children are provided equal opportunities for optimal learning and growth, and all parents are empowered to meet the needs of their children.
    - Values:
      - Partnership: Wild Plum Center is committed to an active partnership model for helping children, families, and the community as a whole to thrive. WPC recognizes that parents are the foremost teachers of their children and as such works to cultivate supportive relationships with them.
      - Empowerment: WPC recognizes the power of education to transform and enrich the lives of children and families. WPC supports lifelong learning and fosters individual development as a foundation for personal growth and achievement.

- Health: WPC regards all forms of family health, including physical, emotional and social well-being, as the foundation on which learning occurs.
- Opportunity: WPC fosters respect and inclusion, welcoming diversity. WPC honors all individuals and families for their unique strengths and contributions to the community. WPC believes all children deserve an equal opportunity for a quality education.
- Compassion: WPC believes compassion is central to fulfilling its mission, approaching all interactions with children, their families, and the community with openness, respect and consideration. This assures a nurturing environment of safety and trust.

**c. VETERANS COMMUNITY PROJECT** Director of Development Melissa Gruber

- Manifesto:
  - We are Veterans Community Project (VCP), a team of connectors, feelers, and doers on a mission to help our kin, our kind. We move with swift, bold action, motivated by the sacred rule of leave no one behind.
  - We believe that a Veteran is anyone who raised a right hand and took the oath to protect our Constitution, regardless of discharge status or type of service. We are ready and willing to respond with compassion to any brother or sister in need.
- About VCP:
  - Established in Kansas City, Missouri, by a group of combat Veterans, Veterans Community Project provides high quality and well-developed strategic services that enable Veterans to meet the challenges of day-to-day living, resolve immediate crises, and move towards permanent stability.
  - VCP's solution is simple: provide Veterans a home of their own and individualized, wraparound support services that not only help get them back on their feet but ensure they continue standing.
  - The tiny homes in VCP Village offer Veterans a sense of security, and the opportunity to reintegrate into the community at their own pace. Each home is pet-friendly and fully furnished with everything a Veteran needs, from new furniture to dish towels.
  - Specially trained case managers work one-on-one with each resident to achieve incremental, lasting results in the areas of health and wellness, education, employment, financial literacy, and the development of a personal support network. When the Veteran is ready, VCP provides support in finding a long-term housing solution, which may include market-rate rentals, homeownership, or subsidized housing. Not only does the Veteran take the entire contents of the tiny house with them, but they take the ongoing support of the Village as well.

**8. NGLA OFFICER ELECTIONS**

- **Nominations:**
  - Chairperson: Stephanie Beck, Kensington
  - Vice-Chairperson: Risa Booze, Hover Ridge
  - Secretary: Lynn Karlin, Hover Ridge
  - Alt-Secretary: Barbara Fox, Villas at Ute Creek
- Goeff Dolman moved to add the Alternate Secretary to slate of officers for one year; 2nd by Rick Jennings
- Goeff Dolman moved to accept slate of officers, 2nd by Sharon O'Leary; passed unanimously
- SNS HOA: Risa Booze, Hover Ridge; Lisa King, Yeager Farm
  - Goeff Dolman moved to hold vote count for SNS HOA, 2nd by Rick Jennings?
  - Risa Booze, Hover Ridge, will serve as SNS HOA representative.

## 9. STAFF BUSINESS AND DISCUSSION

- **Attendance** reminder to sign in
- **LMAC (Longmont Cultural Action Committee) Cultural Survey** (until end of year)
- **OUR Center** Donations
- Recommend resources to support community activities (online form).
- **Thanksgiving Waste Schedule change**
- **Neighborhood Excellence Award nominations** (online form).
- **2023 Neighborhood Registration** Dec 1 to Jan 1
  - hard copy at civic center/upon request
- **2023 Annual Neighborhood Reports:** Expected but not enforced.
- **Grant Payment Request Deadline, Friday, Dec 1**
- **NAF Report**
  - NAF, NEA, NIP total of \$8,345 awarded
    - 43 Activities funded
    - Total investment in neighborhoods: \$32, 303
- **SNS 2023 final report and 2024 expected schedule**
  - \$17,000 awarded
  - 5 projects funded
  - \$25,626 total investment in neighborhoods
  - Next application deadline in February 2024.
- **NLS 2024 expected schedule and details [www.LongmontColorado.gov/NLS](http://www.LongmontColorado.gov/NLS)**
  - Website updates in 2024 (subject to change)
  - Send ideas and feedback to Guillermo
- **CALENDAR**
  - **2024 NGLA** meetings (all in-person)
    - 12/21 No meeting
    - 1/18 TBD (no NIP Presentations)
    - 2/15 State of the City + NEAs
    - Enjoy the holidays!
    - Bring friends in 2024

## 9. Neighborhood announcements & invitation for public to be heard

- None

## 10. Adjournment: Didn't catch the motion or 2nd, if there were any! 8:45 pm.