

NEWS RELEASE:

Date: July 8, 2021

From: David Lee & Pam Harris, Onward Ottawa Co-Chairs

RE: Legacy Square – Partnership with Local Non-Profits



OTTAWA, KANSAS – In order to ensure the vision of Legacy Square as a place for a wide variety of public events, the Onward Ottawa Board has recently voted to partner with local non-profits to host up to ten local events at Legacy Square for no-charge. Onward Ottawa is inviting local non-profits to submit their proposal for a new festival or event that they would host annually. Events could be fundraisers, art show, craft fair, family fun event, food festival, chili cook-off, bike race, trail event, concert, contests, almost any idea they can brainstorm and will carry on for their organization that involves bringing people downtown Ottawa.

Legacy Square was a major private/public partnership that raised \$4,200,000 to construct the outdoor event center through donations, grants, private foundations, and public partnerships with the State of Kansas, Franklin County, and the City of Ottawa. A new campaign is underway to continue to add amenities and to pay off the approximate \$450,000 of remaining expenses from developing the project. The location of the Square is the southeast corner of First and South Walnut Streets with a playground in the northwest corner of the same intersection. Legacy Square is in a unique location at the crossroads of the Prairie Spirit Trail and the Flint Hills Trail. The pandemic greatly reduced the planned events at Legacy Square, but events have been held for a variety of functions from speakers to Flea, Junk & Trunk, family movies on the green, meeting location for local bike riding groups, and a fundraiser for NCCC. Upcoming events include more movies, bike events, farmers market, and more.

To apply to be a host of an event and get the use of part or all of Legacy Square, a non-profit can go to the Ottawa Area Chamber of Commerce webpage at <http://ottawakansas.org/legacy-square/> or contact the Ottawa Chamber (785.242.1000 or chamber@ottawakansas.org) for an application. In the application, the non-profit will describe the event, date/time, expected attendance, objective and goals for the event, how many volunteers they plan to have, promotion plans and methods, and identify how much of Legacy Square they would plan to use.

For more information contact John Coen at 785.242.1000 or email: john@ottawakansas.org.

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