

Unity Comprehensive Plan Committee

Minutes October 10, 2013

Location: Koons Hall Room #201

Attendance: B. Downie, J. Perry, S. Taber, L. Roming, K. Murch, J. McIntire, M. Leavitt, S. Trunzo (scribe).

Review/Approve Oct 3 minutes

Approved with the correction that Ken Murch was in attendance.

Old Business:

Inventory Updates

Does anyone have submissions? Questions? Issues?

Housing- still in progress.

Energy- hard to find data on Unity specifically. Waldo Cty. Info may be skewed to coast. Jim working with folks at CU. 95% houses use propane in Unity.

Demographic info- chart being created.

Letter from Sarah Curran read into record (see attached). Group agrees we need hard deadline(s).

Inventory info should go to Lori and Chia who are putting all of it together in a site. Please send to them in document or spreadsheet formats only (Word and Excel). All should get to them by Nov. 21 via email- but you are welcome to send sooner, too. Perhaps review as big group at 12/5 meeting? Thanks, Lori and Chia.

Jim has offered to assist anyone needing an Excel tutorial. Thanks, Jim.

Surveys

Sydney has offered to enter all the surveys we have so far. Thanks, Sydney! Group asked her to reach out if she'd like support. Group advised Sydney to enter data exactly- as though entered by the individual who completed the sheet themselves.

Small group to work on summarizing results will consist of Sydney, Sara T., and (we very much hope) Jean- as she is able to do some data compilation. Sara T. will reach out to Jean.

Other questions:

- What are we doing with the PDFs of scanned surveys? (Would be good to hold onto for records.)

- How many surveys have come in at this point?

Conversation about how “group data” should be entered. (Ex. VRFP board was interviewed and data from that meeting should be entered somehow into survey data, too.) Group suggests Jean has a method for this.

Emily’s notes tell us the summary should: Summarize results. Find the key issues. What are the top five issues that the people in Unity find important. Report due morning of Oct 21 to Sarah Curran.

Upcoming Schedule

Next week, Oct 17: The group would like to have a hybrid working and regular meeting: i.e. time for small group or individual work AND time to check-in/report-out to large group. Details of this to be determined by facilitator (connect with Sara T. w/ questions).

Oct 21: Sarah wants to have a summary of the survey results in her inbox so she can plan for the 24th. (See “Surveys” section for notes.)

Oct 24: Sarah Curran will be here to go over the survey results with us and take us planning for the visioning session.

Oct 31: no meeting

Nov 7: regular meeting

Nov 14: Sarah Curran with us again

Nov 21: Group agrees with Sarah Curran’s suggestion this is the inventory deadline. Group is also open to having John Piotti speak on food hub, food economy, and other ag. econ. trends from around the state that we might benefit from knowing more about.

General Questions:

- Once inventories are in, what is the action? *Sarah and Marc will review the inventory and work with us to identify topics that should be addressed at the visioning session based on the data*
- When Sarah Curran visits with us- what will she want to accomplish? *Review the results of the surveys and work with us in creating the visioning session. Group will need to be reminded about when she is coming as old schedules are still in circulation. Sarah quoted the wrong date in her letter and Emily didn’t catch it before giving it to the group. Sarah is coming Oct 24 and Nov 14.*

Visioning Session Committee

Michele reports securing UCCPA for Jan 25 all day and the evening of Jan 28 (upstairs only). Times TBA, but likely 10-4 (1/25) and 6-9 (1/28). Michele is working with Sonia on this.

Needs:

Support with advertising: Printing and posting posters. Adverts. that can stand up to snow if needed. Campaign type signs? (Jim will price.) Telephone pole/lawn sign (Sydney has some.)/ hanging banner? UBR newsletter, PenBay pilot, others. Ideas to Michele.

Food for event: Potluck? (many negatives to this mentioned) Pizza? (Jim is willing to ask for donations.) Sydney is willing to make baked goods. We need to figure out how much \$ we might be able to spend and how to do this.

Vacant Lot Conversation

A lot of conversation about why and how to have this conversation. Conclusion: We will discuss ideas for a newly vacant lot in town as an exercise only (to get the creative juices flowing)- as the group doesn't own the property and cannot (and isn't tasked to) dictate what happens on it AND is very small today. We agreed to accept any and all ideas- even outside the box ones. Need to stay in "brainstorm-mode" not get into "strategizing and critical thinking." We'll limit this discussion to 10 minutes.

- Town Office
- Flower garden with mobiles for wind power
- Nursing home assisted or living facility
- Mid-high end condo
- Book store
- Tribal branch office / "Indian museum"
- Net zero off campus housing for students
- Energy efficient housing aimed at faculty, staff of Unity College for prime client
- Indian restaurant
- Co-working / professional space (sent-in in hardcopy) central office building w/ shared resources and reception staff. Encourage emerging businesses by lowering and sharing start-up/overhead.
- Mixed retail space (sent-in in hardcopy) inn, fine dining, brewery, yoga studio, 2-3 retail spaces, courtyard for weddings.

- Skating rink
- Bowling alley
- Pool
- Recreational space
- Community Health and Wellness center with community kitchen, space for dance and aerobics class