

Unity Comprehensive Plan Committee

August 22, 2013 Minutes

Location: Unity Community Center

Attendance: Bob, Emily, Chia, Lori, Sara, John M, Tom, Jim, Don, Tony,

Agenda Item: review/approve Aug 15 minutes

Minutes approved

Agenda Item: review action items from last week

Sara: list of materials for organization meeting kits (complete and on the organization meetings handout)

One more volunteer for the Block Party (complete. Chia and Bob will go with Jim and Emily)

Inventory format was received from Sarah Curran (comment: As we all go through other plans, if something having to do with the format or syntax stands out to you, make a note of it. Chia and Lori will be looking for good and bad examples)

Tell Emily when you have a meeting set with an organization (Last week in September Jim will do open door. Men's group at unity union church: Chia is going to see about getting to this group)

Agenda Item: Elevator speech update

Jim will be looking at the currently existing elevator speeches of the members' and will pull the common themes from them and deliver to us a brief list of main points that we should try to address when we have the opportunity to speak to someone about the comp plan process. If you have an elevator speech, please email it to him.

Agenda Item: Q&A

Jim will be hosting a one-time meeting to create a Q&A list. The list will go on the web site and members should familiarize themselves with it so we have a consistent message to the public. The date is unknown. Share your interest with him or at next meeting. Also, try to remember what questions people ask you so we can add them to the Q&A sheet.

Agenda Item: Working Agreements

At next week's meeting we will be establishing working agreements for the comp plan committee. Come with your suggestion for a working agreement if you have one. Examples from other groups have been: no strong perfume, start on time, end on time, one person speaks at a time, differences of opinion are natural and useful.

Agenda Item: handing out print surveys

Discussion around surveys:

They didn't print all that well. The text is small and the map is hard to read. Emily has (as of Friday) created a new format for it and there are 200 copies at the real estate office.

People taking the survey need more time. Having a neutral and anonymous place to drop them off would be nice. Sue is willing to accept them.

Emily offered to scan them and have them on a google docs file accessible by a link. Get FOLW ones from Jean.

Tony brought in an example of a drop box for surveys made of recycled material. He wants to put them in hardware, depot, whatever. This would create an anonymous way to return the filled out survey.

Add a line for what town you live in

Emily can make a pretty front for the box.

We want to hear from people who come to unity, not only Unity residents.

We are also interested in people who don't come here but live nearby but we want to have the data segregated. To learn, why don't you come to town.

We like the boxes!

Agenda Item: Progress reports

Prompts:

Have you looked at other towns' comp plans to identify what questions their inventory was answering?

Have you made any determinations on what information you are looking for and where you will get it for your inventory work?

Was there something exceptional that you saw in another comp plan? Something remarkable to share with the group?

Have you made an appointment to meet with an organization?

Have you contacted anyone one-on-one or one of your personal social groups?

Have you gathered inventory data?

Emily: Lake environmental association did the maps for Harrison. They are beautiful!!

Chia: A lot of the comp plans share language –probably shared from their local council of gov'ts and the state planning doc.

One comp plan had implementation first that said what everyone was responsible for. That might be great for us. People read from the front to the end of a doc and sometimes they don't reach the end!

Categories..... a new one: Academic

Tom: looked at China for nat resources comparison.

What about Hub towns? Which are hub towns.... Dexter. Dexter is also all about agriculture and farmers' markets. They are also doing the session on homeowner created energy. They have a lake. They could be a great comparison for us. Greenville is another good hub comparison.

Pittsfield isn't a bad comparison

Don will give sara contacts to some of the other planners to ask about what other plans have worked on identity. Stocco would also have a lead on that.

Jim: Finding that energy and fiscal are hard to find good sources for.

Bob is finding infrastructure easy through the state and dot. They are looking for accident stats in the town for where more accidents happen.

Chia wants to get the economy group on one page again about who is getting what info.

Nat resources doesn't have a really active group. Dave potter and jen olin may be able to seek a student or two to work on nat res inventory. Maybe a student would work on the whole process – inventory, analyzing and policy development.

How much data do we get? Do we get a minimum? How do we know what to collect?

Answer: gather what is readily available. Once we have the data, we will have a story told by it. Themes will develop. Once we know what is appropriate and relevant, we will keep in the good stuff. Take out whatever is irrelevant.

The tool kit will be at UBR. Call 948 9005 to let Jim know when you are coming to get them. put a tony box in each tool kit.

At next meeting we will review the list of organizations and see if we are missing something really important.

Question for Jim's Q&A: is the CP accepted by the town?

Q. where do we turn in surveys?

Actions Items for next week:

Give Jim Questions you've been asked.

Organization meeting kits

Sign up for Q&A list creation. Do we have a meeting time?

Dropboxes

Email elevator speeches to Jim