

Unity Comprehensive Plan Committee

Minutes November 7, 2013

Location: Unity College Koons Hall #201

Attendance: B. Downie, D. Newell, J. Bourg, J. Perry, S. Taber, M. Murch, K. Murch, L. Roming, M. Leavitt, C. Murdock, E. Newell (scribe)

Review last week's minutes – change month error, then approved.

Upcoming Schedule

The group went over the upcoming schedule. Nov 14 we will be with Sarah Curran to begin prep-work for the Visioning Session. She will be here one more time before the Vis Sess. Nov 21 the inventory is due to Chia and Lori (on or before nov 21). They would prefer it be submitted digitally but printed on paper is okay. During the meeting, John Piotti will lead a discussion on the Unity Food hub, food economy and other ag econ trends. We have meeting Dec 5 and Dec 12. On Dec 12, the Vis Sess Logistics Subcommittee will report to the large group and delegate things for everyone to do (food; location prep; outreach & invitations; advertising; other). We are off Dec 19 and 26 but have meetings Jan 2, 9, 16, 23, 30. We made a change to the schedule and we WILL meet on Jan 30 during which meeting we will establish our schedule thereafter. A visual-friendly version of this is at the end.

Michele is going to look into getting us another room to use after Dec 5

Survey Results:

What are the main themes in the results?

Chain Stores

Roads

Lake

Governance

Unity College –forming closer ties, collaboration

Economic Opportunity

Farming and Agriculture

Community Spirit (getting together)

Walkable Downtown

Visual Appeal

Emergency Preparedness

What answers surprised you and which ones did you expect?

The people commenting on the chains who are for them or against them are talking about different things – the pros are jobs and the cons aren't actually identifying why but we don't think they dislike them because of a jobs issue.

A lot of talk about stores

A lot about taxes

Many wild comments

Town governance is a hot topic – huge takeaway. People want change with govt

Nothing positive about the governance

People on both sides of the racetrack. Surprised at how much talk about the raceway there was.

Expected to hear about conserving farmland, anti chain and visual appeal

Surprised about the amount of people who wanted growth

Surprised that people wanted more volunteer opportunities and more community spirit (field day, family events)

Surprised at how many people didn't like noise from raceway and fireworks

Surprised at lack of housing talk

rancor, anger, ranting

Amazed at how many more recreational activity desires there are. Feel like there are lots of sports for kids.

Surprised at such animosity against land trusts

Surprised at the animosity against the raceway especially after it being here for so long

We want to know why people don't like chains. How do we find out...second survey, isolate it at visioning session?

Who didn't we hear from?

We had an even response from the 7 regions of town we created but we had low responses from the following age ranges: 0-20, 31-40, above 71

How do we involve them?

Good question!

Outreach idea: "Here are the results of the survey. How do you feel about it? Come to the VS and tell us!"

Visioning Session Logistics Sub-Committee

Expectations of the *sub-committee*: They will work as a small group to create a plan for the logistics of the Vis Sess (location setup, food, outreach, advertising, etc) and report it to the full committee on Dec 12.

Expectations of the *full committee*: Work on content of visioning session. Be delegated tasks by the logistics sub-committee and be all over attendance recruitment.

Other: We decided that the survey results can go public as they are and that people can still respond to the survey but we will track those results separately.

Comprehensive Plan Upcoming Meeting Schedule

November 2013 through January 2014

Location: UC –Koons Hall #201

Nov 14 – meeting with Sarah Curran from Planning Decisions

Nov 21- meeting **and deadline for Inventory Submissions to Chia and Lori** (digital submissions preferred. Print okay) . John Piotti will lead a discussion on Unity food hub, food economy and other ag econ trends.

OFF: November 28th (Thanksgiving)

Dec 5 – meeting

Location to be determined.....

Dec 12 – meeting: Visioning Session Logistics Sub-Committee will report out to the whole group on their plan for the logistics (food, advertising, setup, etc).

OFF: December 19th (busy week leading to holidays)

OFF: December 26th (Christmas week)

Jan 2 – meeting

Jan 9 – meeting - Sarah Curran with us to train us to be activity leaders at the visioning session

Jan 16 – meeting

Jan 23 – meeting

January 25 – Visioning Session

January 30th - meeting