

MINUTES

LAKES TO LAND REGIONAL INITIATIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM MONTHLY MEETING

1:30 PM, JUNE 10 2014

PLEasant VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Present: Monica Schultz (Crystal Lake); Cassi Meitl (B&R); Bob Delanoy and Connie Barnes (Gilmore); Ted Wood and Betsy Evans (Joyfield); Janette May (Bear Lake Twp); Barb Farsing (Bear Lk. Village)

Introduction of Cassi Meitl – Cassi is an intern with B&R who is working on the Food Innovation District assessment of needs and assets through August.

Community updates – Master plans are moving along with their Public Hearings. A sample resolution is needed by Bear Lake Township and Village. A few requests/questions came up regarding Tab 1-3. The townships have not reviewed the revisions that were made. The townships have just been approving Tab 4. Bob Delanoy gave some examples of errors he has found. The first step is to see whether the revisions have been made. Tab 4 is taking priority right now.

[John Iacoangeli was contacted after the meeting and provided responses in blue below]:

- Delanoy: *Did communities make changes to Tabs 1-3? Have the revisions been incorporated?*
Answer: We'll follow up at next Leadership Team meeting. Communities have been focused on Tab 4, Tabs 1-3 are region focused. We need to check if revisions have been incorporated, and what is a good way to do that.
- What should communities budget for in regards to zoning changes (e.g., legal fees, other requirements)
Answer: Phase 2 Treasury grants will provide each requesting community with an assessment of potential zoning changes and a budget for further funding or internal budgeting.
- Connie Barnes was wondering if John or Leah could forward a sample blight ordinance.
Answer: Yes, I am going to suggest a model blight ordinance that reflects the recent unpublished appeal court case of DiCarlo vs. the City of Monroe. I'll try to get that out prior to the next meeting.

Implementation Updates

Al Taylor gave an update on M22 Scenic Highway project. Key points:

- AES has agreed to sponsor
- Tim Ervin is going to give Al an economic impact statement from the M-22 Corridor project
- Basically, Al & team need to take photos of scenic views just on or off M22 to provide evidence; submit an application, and ask communities with M-22 running through them to support.
- Al suggested he could develop a generic presentation for community members to give to their township boards, or he could do it himself when application gets to that point.

Grant Update

- There was a question about whether it could be used for zoning/food innovation district.
Answer: **This grant does not include funding for zoning. The majority of the funds are to get the master plans through public hearing, final revision, adoption and publication. Some of the funds are to be used for the 501(c)(3).**

Implementation Groups

Instead of choosing the next priority, a few were named and "baby steps" to move forward were suggested.

- Trails – Ask Denise Blakeslee to invite Rob Carson to speak (Monica). Invite Tim so he can address funding issues (Al Taylor). The DNR will have to be involved at some point (Ted Wood)
- Water/Riparian – Check with your watershed groups for where they stand on riparian zone management in their watershed plans, see if anyone from group is interested in getting involved in water issues. Report at next meeting.
John I: This will likely be one of the four model ordinances developed through the Phase 2 Treasury grant. Right now we have BLIGHT, and RIPARIAN AREAS, and I am suggesting a RURAL ZONING DISTRICT that sets the stage for Joyfield's ag district. That will leave one more that is undetermined at this time.
- Blight – Obtain general language from John; some communities already have one; share info across communities (e.g., support needed to help people clear blight, fines, enforcement, etc.)
- Food Innovation District – Betsy and Cassie gave a summary of work they've done and will be doing. They toured the region and met once and Cassie drew up a nine page report. We are focusing on the inventory assessment of what we are producing, how it's distributed, what are the needs and barriers. What should a FID for this region look like? A lot of it will be face-to-face time. Its also an assessment of processors, restaurants, retailers, institutions, etc. We are trying to reach out to some key people from the Ag community and their networks to get more involvement. Al Taylor recommended talking to GTRLC. Blaine has several farmers on the PC. Adam Putney was suggested as well as Dave's Meister's daughter, Jamie.
- Betsy Evans reported that tomorrow L2L representatives will be giving a presentation to the Governor's department heads in Lansing, bringing to light all the projects being worked on.

Training

- Betsy had handouts and ideas for Place-making Training (3-4 hours) evening or weekend
- John suggested introductory modules 1, 2 and 6 (Intro, Economics, and a sample applied Place-making in a regional context)
- Then people can decide if they want more in depth training
- Free, as many people as we can handle from board, PC, etc
- Betsy and Monica to work on email to send to group
- Suggestion to define Place-Making, outcomes, success stories (Al Taylor)

Social Media

- Al Taylor to present/summarize some social media ideas & structures, including structure that Manistee County proposed – to have a central website for all Manistee communities
- Ted Wood said Benzie County discussing the same idea of unifying site that hopefully would include links to each community.

Next meeting:

- 1:30 p.m. July 9, 2014 at the Pleasant Valley Community Center:
- Topic: Implementation Group Updates or Rob Carson