

MINUTES

LAKES TO LAND REGIONAL INITIATIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM MONTHLY MEETING

OCTOBER 9, 2013 AT 1 PM
PLEASANT VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER

Present: Monica Schultz, Bob Delanoy, Tamara Buswinka, Ted Wood, Barb Farfsing, Janette May, Al Taylor, Denise Blakeslee, John Iacoangeli, Brad Hopwood, Connie Barnes; Sharron May, Kurt Schindler, Tim Ervin, John Iacoangeli.

Master Plan Updates:

- Gilmore Township (Bob Delanoy) shared success in walking Gilmore township board through accessing the Master Plan online. He suggested a Convention of Communities "road show" or video tape to brief township officials and "keep everyone in the flock".
- Pleasanton Township: won't make the Nov. 1 deadline for master plan approval to distribute for public comment.
- Joyfield Township (Ted Wood) - The township gave unanimous acceptance for distribution of the draft Master Plan. The public is being informed through their tax bills. They are now working on a grant application to their liability carrier for training costs. Currently they are covering only one person per township.
- Village of Bear Lake (Barb Farfsing)- Despite their late start, they are moving fast. Cornerstones and Building Blocks are done; they will be caught up soon. Tim Ervin added that the Bear Lake Watershed Plan is complete and there will be celebration.
- City of Bear Lake (Janette May) is waiting for changes to come back and they should be complete. The next township board meeting is this Tuesday, so they won't be able to approve it for distribution until the 2nd week in November.
- Onkama Township (Al Taylor) needs to file a public notice for renewal and is soliciting input for revisions and data updates.
- City of Manistee (Denise Blakeslee) announced that their Visioning Session is scheduled for Nov. 21, followed by an internet survey for out-of-town residents and notifications via tax bills, Facebook, and web page. AES will also be updating the city strategic plan.
- Manistee Township is finalizing their Future Land Use Map.
- Arcadia Township is prepared to enter into the 63-day review.
- Crystal Lake Township (Sharron May) reported that they have submitted and are waiting to review final changes for accuracy. They have a meeting next week, and she sees no reason why they can't approve forwarding to the township board who may be willing to hold a Special Meeting.

B&R will provide one full color copy of the Master Plan per township. It was suggested to also provide a copy to local libraries.

Tim Ervin Update - last meeting he was given the verbal approval by the Leadership Team to create an entity to drive implementation. He has discussed this with 4 interested funders who agree that moving forward without a defined backbone will be difficult. He is presenting L2L at the Council of Michigan Governments. The Deputy Director of the Dept of Treasury, and the Directors of DNR and DEQ are all coming in the next few weeks for a hands-on feel for what's happening here. There are grants already on the horizon. The priority-setting process is done but he needs details on how to approach grant dollars.

Ervin passed out a handout on Implementation Workshops including purpose, examples and a beginning list of governmental resources, such as the DNR, MDEQ, USDA, MDOT, MEDC, etc. To start we need to find out what programs already exist. He also touched on the power of philanthropy, volunteerism and community service in implementing community plans. Don't be afraid of "match" requirements. Volunteer hours count toward the match.

Kurt Schindler added that NWMCOG and MSUE offer expertise on each of these examples. He suggested that if you can be at the leading edge, or have a holistic approach, it puts you to the top of the list. Sharron May wondered how non-profit goals and program fit into the grid and suggested that the workshop speaker is actually a panel vs. one agency. Al Taylor warned against chasing grants vs. having an intended purpose.

Potential workshop topics

- **Best days/times for workshops**
- **Ideas/best ways to begin to "gel" implementation groups**

Forming a Non-Profit: November Leadership Team meeting; changed from Nov.13 to Nov. 6 due to hunting season. New meeting time is: 1:30 -3:30PM from now on. Guest speaker: Freya Bradford from NorthSky on Best Practices and important considerations in forming a non-profit; Frameworks; how to get buy-in.

M-22 Scenic Highway designation: This is a low hanging fruit accomplishment that could demonstrate the ability to work together. Not a workshop topic, because enough is known about the process, other communities have designated highways and might be used as a resource, thus a workshop may not be needed.

Regional, Non-Motorized Trail System Workshop: Dec. 11 1:30-3:30 Panel Discussion & LT Meeting: Suggest 1 hour workshop followed by 1 hour L2L business meeting.

Action Item: Need to create a summary for panelists. [who will do this?]

Way-finding system: Suggested by John I. as another low hanging fruit project.

Action Item: Monica will re-distribute list of priorities and people

Nov.1 timeline Issues: Some may come later due to Township board meeting schedules.

Terminology, demographic descriptors: These were removed.

Budget for 5-year review: It is just a review; may not need to be updated. The next census is 2021. Even if demographics change, the new #s don't necessarily produce a change but you may need to update data.

Formatting of master plan revisions for new communities starting 5-year review. B&R can plug data in to the template.

Roadshow/video for township presentations. John I. says that NWMCOG may be able to help.

Announcements:

- Fire-wise Workshop Oct. 17 @ 7pm at the Manistee City Hall. Master Citizen Planner credits.
- October 29 & 30: Center for Michigan in Manistee and Benzie - part of a statewide effort to help candidates understand what matters most.

Next meeting topics:

- Grant update
- M-22 Scenic Highway: Next Steps