



Lakes to Land Regional Planning Initiative Meeting Notes

April 11, 2012 1:00 p.m.
Pleasant Valley Community Center

Introduction of Leadership Team Members

Introduction of Todd Kalish, MDNR Lake Erie Basin Coordinator- Place-Making

Tim Ervin remphasized AES' goal to make sure that the plan is implemented and to connect the plan with the financial resources necessary to make things happen. He gave examples of how AES helped the City of Manistee and Village of Onekama secure \$800,000 in grants.

Todd Kalish, DNR Fisheries Division

Todd Kalish has been following this project from the sidelines along with others in local, state and federal agencies. He called the project "creative, unique, innovative and inspiring" and believes that it setting the bar for effective collaboration among numerous stakeholders for a common goal. This is being watched and admired. He enumerated the DNR's four priorities, including the priority he leads, which is to actively partner with groups and commit significant resources to several Place-Making Initiatives. What L2LRI is doing is at the foundation of Place-making because it maintains the individuality of each township while working together for the larger good. Besides finding how they can fit, they want feedback on how they can be more effective with the resources and expertise it can contribute. The discussion included examples of opportunities to link goals and where collaboration in the past was and was not beneficial; mobile boat wash; Asian Carp efforts, addressing delays in permitting, and the DNR's potential role in working with other agencies to establish M-22 as a scenic corridor. Tim Ervin expressed his view that the appeal to the DNR and others looking for efficient ways to use their resources is that there isn't another effort like this. It provides a critical mass to work with unlike any other in Michigan. From AES' standpoint of helping communities convert plans to tangible results, it is their hope that other agencies will follow suit and see this as a good investment. The DNR has a 10-member team in place and can devote personnel. There were no objections to extending a welcome to the DNR to sit in on the visioning sessions and as a result help identify assets that can be plugged into an implementation strategy.

Action Item: Start thinking about how to use the DNR in your areas.

Discussion: Tab 1 and Information Sheet

Talking points and answers to basic questions were reviewed and discussed. Additional suggestions included decreasing the emphasis on regulations as a means to achieve the ends; addressing the role of external communities; differentiation from the Grand Vision; including The Conference of Communities as a process step with dates TBD; including phone numbers and email addresses of core contacts for each community; including the recreation plan; and answering the question: What is the L2LRI?

Action Items:

Tamara will send an initial email to inform core contacts about this decision.

If you want to set up a designated email address, let her know.

Discussion: Leadership Team Role and Responsibilities

Review of Leadership Team Roles and Responsibilities.

Suggested additions: AES role (secure funding, serve as fiduciary administration; implementation); B & R role (meeting the test of statutory compliance; facilitation).

Action Item: Renewing partnership agreements (Jami)

Community Information Meeting

The meetings will be held on May 23rd and 24th from 7:00-8:30PM. Pleasant Valley Community Center is available for either date. We are waiting for Frankfort board approval on a date.

Action Item: Finalize dates of Community Information Meetings (Tamara?)

Housekeeping Business:

Community Documents: Collect existing community documents (master plans, zoning ordinances, etc.) to submit for B&R review.

Status of outreach efforts to potential project partners: On April 10, 2012 at their regular Planning Commission Meeting, The City of Frankfort Planning Commission voted unanimously to collaborate with The Lakes to Land Regional Initiative. Two representatives, Bruce Ogilvie and Jim Campbell were present and updated the group about the collaborative and consensus-building process they used to update their Master Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Those documents are available on the city's website. Frankfort was welcomed to the process and advised that their participation will come during Conference of Communities.

Action Item: Collect and submit community documents to B&R (Leadership team)

Other Business

Citizen Planner Program – Benzie County MSU extension agent, **Kurt Schindler** is planning to hold a Citizen Planner program. Grant-eligible funding is available for Leadership members who are interested in attending. **Tamara** will be forwarding that email to everyone.

Everyone should have received notification of the **Placemaking Conference** on **Monday, May 21st in Traverse City** and that cost can also be underwritten. **Contact Jami about compensation.**

Sharron May suggested that **meeting notes are recorded and posted on the website** to help bring people along as they come to the process and to provide transparency regarding the process. Tim Ervin indicated that it is within the budget to hire someone to do this and Sharron asked to be considered for that role. She is the recording secretary for the City of Frankfort Planning Commission and recorded today's meeting while participating. Because she digitally records the meetings for accuracy it allows her to freely participate. There were no objections from the group.

Tim Ervin suggested that a **news release** be submitted after each meeting.

Action Item:

Submit contact information for Rotary or other groups and organizations. Email addresses, addresses or phone numbers of contacts. (Leadership Team)

News release regarding today's meeting (AES)

[Note: Sharron May has a recording of the meeting if exact quotes or additional details are needed].

Review of Next Meeting Agenda Items:

Preview of Presentation of Information Meeting

Review of Vision Session Format – come prepared to watch slides and participate.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 9 @1:00 at Pleasant Valley Community Center.
