



STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING # 21
February 7, 2014, 9:00 – 11:00 AM
UB Gateway Building
77 Goodell Street, Buffalo, NY

In attendance: Ben Bidell (Niagara County Economic Development), Bill Parke (OSP), Hal Morse (GBNRTC), Kelly Dixon (GBNRTC), Brenda Stynes (UBRI), Bart Roberts (UBRI), Bob Shibley (UBRI), Jennifer Gregory (ESD), Jill Spisiak Jedlicka (BNR), Glenn B. Nellis (Town of Eden), Ryan McPherson (Western New York Environmental Alliance), Andrew Dearing (UBRI), Dan Leonard (BNP), Darren Kempner (NFTA), Ross Annable (Town of Hartland), Mark Routree (Erie County DEP), Bradshaw Hovey (UBRI), Lawrence Cook (The John R. Oishei Foundation).

1. Welcome and introductions

2. Events & Planning Activities Update

a. Fair Housing Equity Assessment (FHEA) Update

- i. 8 chapters. The one that has the greatest amount of work is public assessment. The goal is to have a better handle on public assessment by the end of the month. The other chapters are very much along
- ii. Working plan of FHEA: Understand the current and future context for equity and opportunity in the region, engage the community and its leaders properly evaluate segregation and discrimination in the region, and continue public input at the community congresses.
- iii. Evaluation of segregation and discrimination in the region
 1. There is poverty trend throughout the region. FHEA has created maps looking at the relationship between different particular opportunities and demographic (Hispanic, black, white, and mixed). Finds showed a disparity in opportunity of: opportunity in school proficiency, Opportunity to housing stability, Opportunity to Job access, Opportunity to food access, Environmental health. Evidence of these maps show incredible disparity between races in the region.
 2. Continuation of public input at the community congresses. The public was asked to talk about their neighborhood experience. Participants were asked to write down their zip code and fill out a survey. 22 zip codes were acquired. Experiences ranged from having a 30% positive economic opportunity to a 35% negative one.
 3. In an effort to gain more public input FHEA is developing a new survey on fair housing and equity assessment. There will be a public draft come March and they will be submitting a final draft to HUD in the spring.
- iv. Discussion
 1. B. Shibley: Thank you. I'm really pleased with the work you have done in framing this data and situation. What obstacles do you see? Where do you draw the line? There are so many factors and you have to address



in making this case strong and useful to the general public. It's generally hard to access data based on discrimination. Challenging data points will be found short term, which will guide us to future developments.

2. HUD parameters: How much do they dictate in using specific indicators, specifically environmental? Do we have to fit to their specifications?
 - a. Concerning environmental concerns, the numbers and guidelines seem to be from data from EPA.
 3. Mapping waste data
 4. How to balance output of data? What to research specifically? Mapping waste data?
 5. This method will give us a broader look at challenges in the community and how to face them. The goal is to expand upon the work that we are doing. A Richer product once overall survey has been reached.
 - a. Use of the mobile safety net team: public engagement because it's more specific geographically. Having a link in the 1RF website could be beneficial towards the cause. It will provide an opportunity of integration across different sectors in an opportunity to reach more people.
- b. Citizen planning school
1. B. Roberts: application will be on our website soon. Anyone can apply. There is a list of people showing interest in getting involved. They are from across the region. We hope to see a broad and diverse student body. Preliminary questions of candidates into the program include: What do you want to get out of the program? What diverse perspective can you bring? Applications will be accepted through March and we will get started in April.
- ii. Discussion
1. The Citizen planning school will be a feature of 1RF's e-newsletter and e-mail advertisements will be sent. The aim is to accept 50 people into the program. Interaction will involve development of skill in community advocacy and change. Service learning opportunities will be a large part of this. The priority is to instill a regional framework in students and encourage a connection to becoming community leaders. Organic teaching of regional values and cooperation.
 2. Classroom engagement will involve four 2 hour sessions. Anyone can attend but you earn a certificate if you attend all four
 3. Videographer will be present to help translate these sessions to those unable to attend. The information will be available on the website.



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Advertisement of this program will be ready soon. Specifics of the program will be ready before July.

- c. Workshop's on the Road Update
 - i. 10 confirmed workshops
 - 1. Clarence IDA 2-08-14
 - 2. Buffalo state geography department 2-26-14
 - 3. Young Non Profit Professional Network 2-27-14
 - 4. Tapestry charter school 3-6-14 & 3-7-14
 - 5. Hamlin Taxpayer Association 3-6-14
 - 6. UB Education opportunity Center
 - a. A diverse group of about 60% of participant will be foreign born and across the region
 - 7. WNY environment alliance 3-19-14
 - 8. Self-Advocacy Association of NYS 3-20-14
 - 9. Southtowns Planning and Development Group 3-20-14 (Open to the public)
 - 10. Workshops in discussion: Niagara Orleans BOCES, Global concepts charter school, doris jones family resource building, parkside community association, villa maria college
 - ii. Deadline for scheduling/ discussing a community workshop is march 15th.
 - iii. Common trends in these workshops are age and diversity. 10 years ago 18-30 demographic was missing but now it's making a comeback. Part of the reason we have been so open is because to the positive strong response from the community.
- d. BNP Transportation summit 5-2-14
 - i. Introducing the issue of transportation funding at the federal level as well as showing local leaders how to represent. Funding is allocated properly. Afternoon session funding at a local level and bring it to a regional level. This is an effort to make smart decision. There is a push for many policy members to be in attendance, so that they may actually make a difference. There is an agenda to concentrate at a federal level and incorporate a 1rf discussion of community congresses. The discussion will then lead to what that means on a local level.
 - ii. Discussion
 - 1. Touch on trends, like a complete street push for the broader transportation crowd.
 - 2. What are our transportation projects for the broader community?



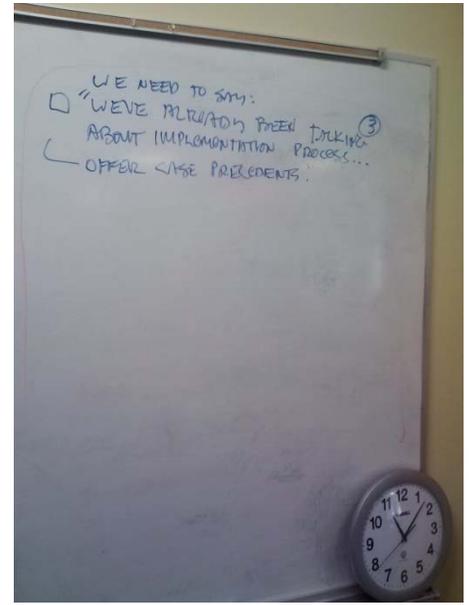
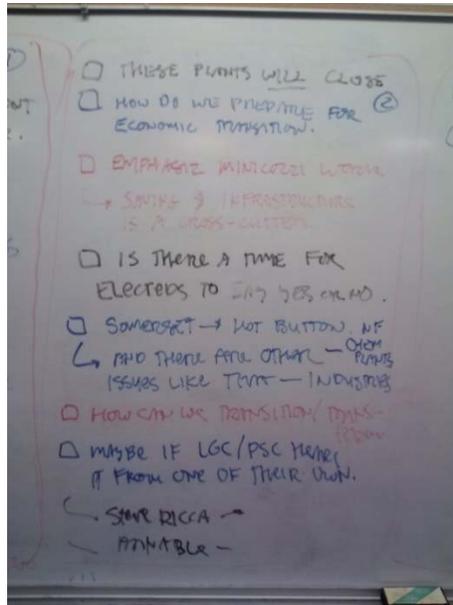
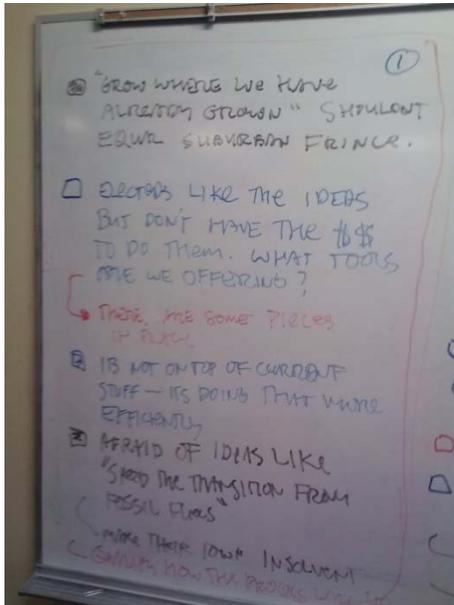
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3. Environmental representation
 - a. Changing the landscape but whatever we can do make
 - b. building infrastructure and living infrastructure
 4. Funding maps showing how resources are actually allocated.
 5. Holistic approach from state and federal funding of how and where we put things.
 6. What role to the local transportation authority
 - a. We would have more representation.
 7. How do we make funding easier and keeping local municipalities in the discussion
 8. Important discussion for engaging local governments
 9. How to make transportation funding cheaper and quicker
- e. Local Government Council & Private Sector Council Meeting 2/11/14
- i. B. Shibley: Choose 4 or 5 people from our RSVP list you can personally contact about his event. Individual endorsement and response is our best tool. So far 32 people have confirmed for the event on Tuesday.
 - ii. Presentation of theme statement of what we can do together
 1. What we've heard and what we're doing together
 2. Working groups and implementation
 3. What the community is saying through workshop activities and mapping data.
 4. What does the working group have as recommendations for implementation?
 5. What is consistent is research?
 - iii. Presentation
 1. What we have heard: Grow where we already have grown, Revitalize neighborhood in decline, Bring jobs back to industrialized areas, Walkable livable communities, Invest in strong village centers, Promote a transportation system sensitive to pedestrian and bicycles, Transit connection, Highways should, Conserve open space, Preserve out farmland, Make waterfront access a priority.
 2. What's already happening: Picture main street, Hamburg, Riverbend, Downtown revitalization Niagara greenway, Bike infrastructure, Buffalo caeshare, Park conservancy, ect..
 3. Working from visions and values to goals, strategies, and actions
 4. Land use and development



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- a. Provision of basic public services, Preserve natural resources, Manage vacancy, Promote efficient land use
- 5. Transportation
 - a. Finance, Transportation management association, International trade gateway, transportation and land use patterns
- 6. Housing and neighborhoods
 - a. Build on assets, Household demographics, Delivery system
- 7. Food access and justice
- 8. Climate change
 - a. Speed our transition, Renewable energy, Energy conservation, Improve planning to anticipate negative
- 9. Cuts across
 - a. Implement a land use concept
 - b. Shared public data
 - c. "Tool-kit": What other are doing to develop best practices
 - d. Public education
- iv. What do you need from a plan like this?
- v. How do we make it work?
- vi. Open discussion in weather we are heading in the right direction
- vii. Discussion
 - 1. We should grow where we have already grown?
 - a. Does this take away from urban centers
 - b. Brownfield areas are already grown
 - 2. At the end of the day I don't have the tax revenue to support these ideas. How do we offer alternative to financing these projects?
 - a. Focus on being able to tap cash flow and implementation, job growth, fiscally responsible way to do business
 - b. How do we economize this plan?
 - i. Stress how to remain economically viable, Emphasize saving infrastructure costs
 - c. Planning for different plants that will close
 - d. How do we prepare for economic proposition
 - e. Is there a time for elected
 - f. We need a new planning process. How do we make it work
 - g. A lot of communities that have industry that want to see it change over. Dunkirk is a good example of this transition. One Can't change a coal powered plant over night
 - 3. Notes take on white board by Bradshaw:



- viii. An introduction to attract both the public and private sectors.
 1. How do we join the efforts?
 2. 2 volunteers to do the introduction
 - a. Steve Ricca
 - b. Ross Annable
 3. We are starting to put these ideas together. Here is what other communities have done. What working teams
 4. Everyone will get a formal invitation.pdf to the event
 5. All the information is on the website to provide tool to the public

3. Working Teams Update

- a. There is a large working team with much collaboration. Steering committee members are invited. We will give out more information we available

4. Business Disaster Training event 2-25-14 & 2-26-14

- a. Discussion
 - i. Workshop on Wednesday
 - ii. Josh Humann hazards center research
 - iii. Free event with 50 spots available
 - iv. Either attend Wednesday or Tuesday
 - v. Does One Region Forward have an introduction to this?

5. Adjournment