

Growth and Planning Team Meeting
March 8th 3:30-5pm
Bailey and Wood

Attendance: Teresa Harwood, David Hittle, Karri Steckler, Carmen Parker, Kevin McGinnis, Jody Veldkamp, Cindy Cook, Tom Bridges, Tina Stephens, Susan Creasy, Daniel Wimmer, Sam Marcello, Toby Winger, Eric Vermilion, Eric Lugers, Willie Matis, Jennifer Hollingshead

Welcome from Karri- thank you for coming and bringing guests

Introductions from attendees

Eric says to please participate- everyone is welcome to be involved. You can come back again! There will be some people heading up projects and they want you to help too. If you have ideas that aren't on the agenda, see Karri to start a new project/topic for discussion.

Anytime is great to bring a guest. Give Karri your email if you would like to receive an agenda in advance.

What do we want to accomplish in 2018? Please be a part of the discussion at any time.

I-69 group update:Jody + David

County thoroughfare plan- for improvements of road, intersections and any right of way. Mandated that we have a plan; we currently have a plan, but it's pretty old and undetailed. I-69 corridor plan- Will look at impact of 69 and how the local roads can handle the traffic. Also, a land use component with the development of I-69 will be done in August. Concurrently, the county has a grant to re-vet the entire plan identify improvements, reclassifying the streets, etc.

Steering committee held a review with feedback from people gleaned from public meetings. At least we are doing something as a countywide effort. HWC has done a Morgan County plan and are very experienced. Probably will be 2 more public meetings and may need volunteers to help coordinate those events.

Obstacles- need more engagement from elected officials.

Other updates: Peggy Rutledge talked to him after pedestrian death on State Road 135. Jody attended a public meeting and listened and

encouraged people to get involved and help with their community. Aspire is doing a lot and making things happen. This group was for education on the I69 project- not for or against the project. Asked are we prepared? The answer was "no" at that time. From that, Jody and his group were able to push the agenda through influence. Jody tells people he doesn't remember the mission statement, but it's "We can do better than that". Any questions for I-69 team? Eric mentioned Fairview road closing and how that will affect traffic at Bluff road and Morgantown.

Trails update: Carmen + Willie

Biggest goal to raise money for county wide master trail plan. Carmen is suggesting \$100,000- public/ private donation, grants, etc.

Strategy- core partnership met in January to accomplish the plan. Will look much better if every municipality is on board. Elected officials and reps from each group. Who can help with grant writing, events that they can attend- festivals etc., fundraising group, making the ask, marketing- social media plan?

Got the grant submitted as well as last Wednesday got registered to be a participant in Rock the Block. Carmen was nervous that we weren't going to make the cutoff of 20 runners. Ended up with 31 runners and 5 volunteers. The event is April 21st. 17 charities registered with most Center Grove school groups, 4-5 general community non-profits. Now it's up to how many registrations we can get by April 21st. If they get 3000 registrations, they will give up to \$50,000 away. Johnson CY Trail is the page name on social media. Carmen will be going to the county commissioners to give an update on Monday. They are aware and supportive of what we are working on. Tuesday she'll be presenting at Franklin Rotary and will be mentioning to sign up for Rock the Block. Will find a date for a breakfast sub-meeting to see where everyone wants to fit. Questions? Are you competing for funds? Money is distributed by how many people you have signed up to participate. Already 600 registered for all of Rock the Block. You don't have to show up- you can sign up as a sleeper and support from home. Kids don't count toward participation goal. Considering a drawing to win tickets to Death by Taxes day for those that sign up with Aspire.

Where could you find a map of the trail plan? Carmen can send a link of current trail PDF, Greenwood =30 miles, Franklin 16 miles. Trying to get input now to develop trails and connect all municipalities and high schools together. Maybe even connect up to Marion county, to Monon etc.

Suggestion that I-69 might give us a good opportunity along the river and close to Southwestway park. It's a flood plain, so it can't be developed. If we have sidewalks, trails etc. in the I-69 plan is important- they will continue them once 69 comes in.

Area near I-69 is very unique- fossils, arrowheads, eagle nests right now, you can't access it well.

Carmen went to check out a dirt trail in Trafalgar to learn what they are like. Trying to share on social media to tell people what we have now and if they want more. Help places like Whiteland, that don't have the resources to develop a trail plan. Estimating \$150,000 to put trail around Whiteland high school. School is giving \$50,000 to install.

Suggested to contact Spring Mill Florida to see what they do. Hancock county is going through the same process. Raised \$90,000, now in public hearing phase and getting input. Carmen likes the idea of looking at other communities and states to see what they've done. Make some contacts in Ft. Wayne- best trails. Carmen has a friend that is on their board, so when it's time she'll reach out. The commitment of the people is what makes the difference in a community.

Worthsville road expansion- city of Greenwood was required to put trails and pathways to get state money. Federal and State grants are pretty in depth. Great to have champions at developer meetings to remind them of trails is helpful too. HWC has heard the feedback that trails need to be incorporated along with the I-69 plan. Let Karri know if you want to be a part of trails and she'll be in touch from everyone.

Rock the Block- looking for family friendly activities to have at event as well. Karri will share more details as things are planned.

Collaboration: Kevin

He was involved in municipal government a few years ago. Decided to reach out to Mayors, county commissioners, town managers, clerk treasurer, council members, etc. to work on problems and get to know each other. Threw a Xmas party where everyone brought their spouses. Group is growing and doing well. Norm Gabehart did a planning meeting and it was nice to see the mayors show up and support him.

May start trying to get council presidents together to share ideas and solve problems. Will reach out to a few of them. Feel like it's working well. We've also used collaboration as an idea for Kevin to introduce ideas.

Karri has limited info from Dana - Stellar communities program expanded for communities to apply together for regional development program with

support from BSU and Purdue. What does it take to put together the proposal? Would the team vet it to be prepared for next year? Regional partnership, any size, can apply. Transformative quality and long-term relevance. Karri listed the different towns that were Stellar communities. Fostering collaboration between communities. She has information if anyone wants to learn more about the program.

Johnson County Business Development Event- Teresa

Show off what we have going on in Johnson County. If a company is looking to move or expand, they use a site selector in the later part of 2018. Dana will be checking when site selectors are already here. Still looking at dates. Show them some spec. Buildings or plans that we have in the county.

What could we do to help now? Need date from Dana to get started. Want to make sure that we incorporate the different communities. Helpful to tell the site selectors what we're looking for. This gives you a voice to say what we want or don't want.

Question- the corridor plan being adopted in August if they have it, would be good to show off. If you get interest, that also helps the plan move forward.

Eric V.- Coworking space has been on the agenda for 2+ years. Could be an area with a machine to use, or a space so they don't have to rent a small office. Allows small businesses to start without as much risk. Also, can lead to collaboration with others. Aleks Davis at B2S labs just this week recognized for expanding B2S labs bringing new jobs and a science and biotech incubator.

Eric Luger owns the 3-story building next to Greek's pizza. 2nd floor has sat empty and were approached by Mayor Barnett about developing into a coworking space. Wanted an attractive modern environment- basement with P.O. boxes, lockers, ping-pong table. Oldest soon-to-be working elevator in the county. Space will be called The Elevator. 2nd floor will be social workspace with bistro setting, social workspace with bigger tables, back section will be 20-25 individual flexible work stations. 3-4 months away from completion. Not just for small businesses- works for attorneys to use the space as needed. Might be able to get 6,000 more square feet from above Greeks.

Greenhouse- workspace in Tilson building -unaware of what's happening with it; has to be moved out by April.

Maker space has been part of the discussion, also community kitchen- for a commercial kitchen and food trucks and farmers markets. All these need collaboration between city governments to make them successful.

See Karri if you want to learn more about Stellar communities or trails.

Annual meeting is March 21 at the Nest from 11:30-1:30-pm.- rsvp to Jennifer at jhollingshead@jcdc.org no later than Friday March 9th if you plan on attending.

Next team meeting is April 12th.

Looking for a co-chair for the Growth and Planning.

Meeting adjourned 5pm. Minutes submitted by Jennifer Hollingshead