
Community Events + Facilities SC Meeting #1 - Minutes

SC MEETING #1 – 6/9/2011

In Attendance:

Subcommittee Members: Alice Stevenson, Carrie Mowrey, Erica Linnell, Greg Casperson, Jeff Potter, Jo Haddox, Lindsey Moss, Marie Tyler, Matt Eagens, Tibby Plasse
County Staff: Angie Rutherford
Consultant team: Bruce Meighen, Jennifer Zung, Randy Blough, Rebecca Brofft

Sub-Committee Members Absent: Diane Temple, Suzanne Arden

- Meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m.
- The statement of Expectations for committee members was reviewed and all members in attendance signed and submitted the forms.
- Subcommittee leadership positions (chair, co-chair, and recorder) were described and the necessary qualities of individuals serving in these positions were discussed. Members were asked to nominate themselves or other members to serve in these positions.
- Motion and Vote
 - Alice nominated Diane Temple for Chair, Matt seconded. Diane was called but could not be contacted to accept the nomination. Jeff Potter agreed to be co-chair, Jo Haddox agreed to be the recorder. All were in favor of Jeff as co-chair and Jo as recorder. All agreed that Jeff would act as chair until it could be verified that Diane would accept the nomination and election to the Chair position.
- Bruce reviewed the Comp Plan process, workbooks, and how information would be gathered and used.
- The schedule of the next meeting was discussed. The next meeting will be in approximately two weeks and the chair would be responsible for scheduling the next meeting.

Values, Issues, and Opportunities Exercise:

Subcommittee members were asked to write what they thought were important values, issues, and opportunities related to community events and facilities and Teton County in general on sheets of paper and post them on the boards. Committee members were asked to discuss their number one issue, value and/or opportunity briefly. The comments included:

Values

- Family-oriented community
- Opportunities for families to exercise and do things together
- Quality education
- Natural resources and open space
- Adequate, affordable and efficient emergency services
- Viable local business
- Access to complete local services and amenities
- Health care
- General health and wellness of families and residents

Issues

- Deep cultural chasm between two distinct groups in the community
- Traditional thinking and old patterns
- Disconnect between state and local level education
- Youth issues have been polarizing and negative

Opportunities

- Room for building consensus and finding common ground
- Need local, affordable recreation center, including a pool and swimming opportunities
 - Should be accessible to families, seniors and children
- Build new school to eliminate overcrowding in Victor
- Improve zoning, especially the “Agriculture/Residential 2.5 zoning”
- Diverse community
- Need to look outside local system for inspiration
- Combine fire and ambulance to consolidate services
- Help provide opportunities for year-round gainful employment for residents
- Connect education and health care with higher education opportunities
- Provide solid businesses to attract and keep residents here
- Generate affordable recreation and family-friendly opportunities, year-round, indoor and outdoor
- Provide positive outlets for youth

The full List of Values, Issues and Opportunities that were posted by the committee members include:

Values

- Small town, rural community and related values
- Quiet neighborhoods
- Open Spaces
- Rural Character and Way of Life: keep open space through sustaining agriculture and/or purchase of land through land trust
- Agricultural Environment, not urban or suburban
- County/rural atmosphere with open spaces, wildlife, good natural environment, good access
- Sustain scenic resources
- County and city government must be more user friendly, open and accountable
- Family and friends
- Non-profits
- Safe place for my kids to grow up
- Leisure time
- Intimacy of a small community
- Strength of community- friends and neighbors
- Community activities, interaction and connection
- Progressive education system
- Family activities
- Health
- Functional, efficient reliable EMS
- Youth sports/recreation
- Low Crime
- Education, superior
- Health care access

- Safe neighborhood
- Excellent schools
- Excellent education
- Schools
- Balance between preserving tradition and embracing change
- Supportive, caring community
- Family-oriented
- Quality health care
- Dogs that do not run free- do not chase wildlife or livestock
- Dog owners who respect the rights of surrounding neighbors
- Winter sports program in our elementary schools

Issues

- Inadequate noise-control ordinances
- Inadequate or unenforced garbage ordinances- some properties are real pigsties, to the discomfort and detriment of neighbors
- Too much stock not being controlled by owners. This is not the wild west anymore
- "Open space" ordinance abused by developers
- Participation and education by the public re: drafting the Comp Plan
- Community divisiveness
- lack of winter indoor recreation for families/seniors/or citizens who don't ski
- Enforcement of county regulations
- Will hospital survive? Do we need a different model of health facility?
- Need a more centrally located library
- Senior center and animal shelter "going under"
- Victor elementary building is old. The physical plant needs updating
- We need an affordable facility for indoor recreation such as swimming, water exercise for all groups including seniors
- I think we should maintain and update our health care facility
- We get stuck in a rut around [here]... we need to ask for outside knowledge and guidance
- Idaho tax system decreases possible spending options on schools
- Our activities are very divided... i.e. widespread concert vs. glenn beck
- Ag/Res 2.5 zoning
- Lack of funds to the school system at state/federal level
- Grants, funding, support to local hospital
- The variance of laws between Boise and small local towns and the relevance
- Lack of cultural diversity
- Lack of cohesiveness
- Sprawl
- I think there is not facility where the children of our community can learn to swim and to practice water safety
- Lack of indoor recreational space for young children (esp. during long winter months)
- People who think it's okay to let their dogs roam
- Funding for events (balloon fest, etc.) is difficult
- Elementary schools are over crowded
- Funding is continual problem for schools and hospital
- Health care

- Segregated communities
- Community division, lack of trust and understanding and mutual respect
- Teton Valley needs an indoor horse arena

Opportunities

- Preservation (historical, agricultural, culture, recreational)
- The "market reset" has lowered assessed valuations and allows the opportunity to recognize the community value of un-developed land as "open-space," which should be taxed at a lower rate, if requires less service. People with large yards "over rural land," which is not separate, platted lots, should be able to get a tax discount for keeping it undeveloped- maybe 10 year blocks of time
- Encourage new, appropriate agricultural enterprise on marginal lands
- We have a chance to be a small, remote, historically rural area that can be modern and progressive
- Venues for events/youth community
- Continuing education (focus, facility, partnerships)
- Cultural events: film festivals, theatrical production, more music (?), literary/art
- Comp plan process- unify community
- Education/outreach (training) opportunity
- Build new elementary school in Victor
- Pool/Rec center/Parks etc.
- Grown Teton Valley into a place we can all be proud to call home and share
- Mecca for outdoor rec and entertainment
- Many retirees in valley who volunteer in many capacities
- To attract people here through a better school system
- Develop a plan that stimulates business growth through better health care
- Funding for hospital facility and programs
- Parent/mentor involvement opportunity
- Teach English to Hispanics; tutor/help kids of non-English speakers
- Events that engage this entire community like 4th of July parade, Tin Cup, etc.
- Community College
- Recreation fitness center and pool connected to the hockey rink
- Build a tax plan for our own county that reflects our value on education (levies, etc. - is this legal?)
- Combine fire and ambulance so we don't waste money on training EMTs in 2 different departments and increase skill
- Need to find ways to find common ground linking the two very separate cultural groups. For example: we all want our children to be happy, healthy and safe
- Amazingly talented people in the Valley (Mecca of talented people)
- Wonderful community to live in
- Convention center

Action Items:

- All committee members will reach out to others in the community and collect "Values, Issues, and Opportunities" on the sheets provided. PDF's of the sheets are attached to these minutes. Sheets will be turned in to Angie at the County planning office.

The meeting was closed at 3:30 p.m.