



Meeting Notes – Housing Work Group

June 8, 2016

9-11 a.m.

Prior Lake City Hall – Parkview Conference

Present:

Work Group Members - Bob Coughlen, Mike Waldo, Joe Julius, Eric Gentry, Tom Kelleh, Deb Barber, Jim Caauwe, Ted Kowalski, Laura Helmer

Staff - Dan Lauer-Schumacher, Dan Rogness, Julie Siegert

Introductions and update from other work group meetings:

The meeting began with introductions and then the presentation of the new website www.livelearnearn.org. Within the website are information on upcoming and past meetings including mission and vision statements, dates, summaries, and progress updates. There are also links that contain the relative documents that have been generated by SCALE and informational summaries by outside organizations to help inform the subgroups. Stacy Crakes will be updating the website for the initiative.

There was significant discussion about making the broader public aware of the initiative. There were voices on both sides of when and how much information should be given to the public at this stage. The concerns were about getting information out without a clear concise message and justification of the specific goals (50% of workforce living in Scott County by 2030 and other smaller goals. Additional discussion was had around cross advertising other events (National Night Out, Savage town festival, Project Community Connect, etc.). There were some who supported the idea of getting the information out sooner rather than later in order to increase participation and bring additional voices to the table.

We discussed the flow of information between the Steering Committee and Work Groups. There appeared to be support for the Chairs to communicate information up to the Steering committee and inform the Housing Committee of the Steering Committee plans and the work of other committees. There still needs to be further discussion among all the committees. Additional questions were posed around how many people should be attending meetings of the Steering Committee and other work groups to ensure that Housing committee is working in conjunction with them.

Housing in Scott County:

Discussion then moved to the goals set forth by the Housing Committee and what those goals should be.

- Is the key to housing cost and attracting people to live in Scott County finding better jobs that can afford the housing/rental market?
- Is the goal to attract more current employees to be residents?
- Who do we need to be in these meetings? Currently some of the cities and townships and are not represented.

Data is needed to understand the people and issues surrounding housing:

- Met Council provides System Statements of all cities in preparation of their future city planning. The new Comp Plans need to be submitted in 2018 so this is the time to start working on coordination among the cities, townships, counties, etc.
- Better understanding of the difference in building requirements in various townships and cities.
- The income ranges within the county and how many people fall in each of the area. Same information for the housing market in regards to current housing stock and rental rates.
- What are the potential differences in the goals of local councils vs that of the County and regional planners.
- Analysis of comp plans from the local cities and townships. Particular attention paid to zoning areas that are designed for current development vs areas zoned for certain types of housing that will likely not be developed in the short term but much further in the future.
- What are the gaps in our housing market? What are people able to currently afford in our market vs. what is currently available.
- The roll of employment on the housing market. What level income qualify or disqualify you based on family size for social benefits through the county/state?
- There is a current population in Scott County living in poverty and homelessness. How are their needs being considered?
- What type of jobs are the cities/county trying to attract and can we meet their housing needs?

We need to have stakeholders from all communities (demographically and city wise).

Stakeholder Wheel:

For the interest of time, each person in attendance completed the stakeholder wheel. We will consolidate the information and bring the information back to the next work group meeting in July.

Homework

- Brainstorm the most important things needed to address the housing needs of all groups.
 - Visions for housing.
- Look at system statements for Elko/New Market, Belle Plaine, Shakopee.
- Presentation of suburbanization of poverty and homelessness.
 - How many people fall in each income range.
- What problem is the steering committee solving with 50 by 2030?
- Plan for future dates 2nd Wed. of each month from 9-11 am.
 - Aug and Nov will be at Village Commons in Savage.
- Questions for Focus Groups
 - Seniors, Diverse Populations, Affordable Housing