

DATE: August 1, 2013
TO: Marble Town Council
FROM: Citizens of Marble, Colorado
SUBJECT: Citizen's Brainstorming Sessions Regarding
The Future Vision of Marble, Colorado

The following documentation is reflective of the input of citizens from Marble and the surrounding area who is interested in the future of Marble, CO and attended the four brainstorming meetings held at the Marble Fire Station.

The Marble Town Council requested the brainstorming sessions after city planning was suggested. They are interested in building a team spirit composed of the town council and the citizens. They want the citizens to feel they have a voice and that their voices are heard.

The two brainstorming sessions were held as a kickoff to begin the process of city planning. Twelve citizens were at the first meeting on February 10, 2013. They were so encouraged with the process that the attendees voted 100% to continue the process. The second session was held on February 17, 2013. Attendance grew to twenty people at that meeting and was more diversified. Once again 100% of the attendees showed the desire for the process to continue and expressed that desire to the town Council. Working with a common goal, we worked as one entity on some topics and then broke up into small groups to obtain as many creative ideas as possible. People were mixed up in the small groups to work with new people to help the freshness of creative thinking.

Everyone understood that it was only the beginning of the planning stages with many more opportunities and steps to follow. More communications need to happen to inform the public, more notice given for planning meetings, more citizens included from the city of Marble and the surrounding area as well as the seasonal citizens. The town council is working on a web site and newsletter to help with communications as well as the public postings.

The town council members volunteer their time to the elected positions and are interested in more involvement from the citizens thereby learning more about the business of the city and preparing themselves for future leadership positions.

The final two meetings were held on June 30 and July 7, 2013 to include more people not available in the winter months.

All copy in black is the report from the first two sessions. All copy in blue is added from the June 30 and July 7, 2013 brainstorming sessions. The report will be presented to the town council at their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, August 1, 2013.

The important thing to remember is that we citizens came together at the request of the Town Council for them to have citizen input. Everyone was very conscientious regarding the assignment and followed the rules of brainstorming

THE FIRST UNIFYING AGENDA ITEM:

Was to understand brainstorming and agree to the rules for brainstorming.

Brainstorming is a process for developing creative solutions to problems. Teams can double their creative output. More freedom for expression is encouraged.

Everyone agreed to the following rules allowing for a very free and positive atmosphere.

RULES FOR BRAINSTORMING:

- 1) FOCUS ON QUANTITY!**
 - 2) NO JUDGEMENT OR CRITIQUES!**
 - 3) WILD IDEAS ARE ENCOURAGED!!!**
 - 4) CREATE NEW IDEAS FROM
THOSE ALREADY GIVEN**
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THE SECOND UNIFYING AGENDA ITEM: GOALS AND PURPOSE STATEMENT

The second unifying agenda item was to discuss, think about, develop and agree on a purpose statement.

Most collaborative groups develop a vision, mission or purpose statement soon after the participants begin meeting together. These statements articulate a common purpose for the participants, and guide decisions about where to focus future effort.

This is an umbrella statement and should be kept as simple and succinct as possible.

In the first brainstorming session, the group listed several goals that the purpose statement should address. Everyone was to think about these goals to develop the suggested purpose statement in the second brainstorming session. The following is a list of the goals of city planning for Marble.

GOALS:

Special Note: A local Marble citizen requested this list be prioritized. We tried to prioritize it at the 7/7/13 meeting and the group decided it could be dealt with better with committees addressing fact finding, budgets, etc. Some of these items will work well grouped together and simplify at the same time.

- 1) Self sufficiency / Sustainability
- 2) Sense of Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, Parks, Etc.)
- 3) Community Involvement
- 4) Health/Safety/Welfare
- 5) Historical Value
- 6) Modern Approach
- 7) Best for Community
- 8) Communication with Community
- 9) Art/Cultural Awareness
- 10) Appropriate purpose to increase involvement
- 11) Parks and Recreation
- 12) Parkland Use
- 13) Historical Preservation
- 14) Professional Town Meetings
- 15) Increase Image of Town Council
- 16) Timely Action of Decisions
- 17) Wildlife/ Animals
- 18) Public Posting Areas
- 19) Desirable Destination
- 20) Municipal Code Enforcement

SUGGESTED PURPOSE STATEMENT:

“With as much community involvement as possible, our purpose is to make a plan for the future of Marble regarding buildings, parks and roads: aiming for self-sustainability and respecting the natural beauty and the historic aspects and values that make Marble a wonderful place to live as well as a desirable destination for tourists.”

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

City planning is a living, breathing entity that changes over a long period of time. Share a vision rather than jump to defining an outcome. Some items rise to the surface first based on need and support often times due to growth or realization of necessary amenities helpful to the community.

The ideal is to move slowly, plan carefully, listen to the citizens and their needs. We do embrace community. People’s fears are valid when they feel they do not have a voice. City’s goal is to find a balance. When one part gets ahead before thinking everything through, mistakes can be made or be costly. It has been proven that through this process citizens find they can agree on issues, enjoy the process, fear is eliminated and have better solutions than ever.

Eventually, professional people skilled in certain areas of expertise will need to be consulted and make proper use of the voice of the citizens and the assignment. Human infrastructure can then be built by involving citizens in the community project they have an interest in.

We can help facilitate this process further. The citizens do not want this process to evaporate and are feeling energized by the Town Council’s request.

Small Group Brainstorming Ideas:

We had four separate small groups brainstorming for the same amount of time. Each group was represented by a color. ..Lime green, white, yellow and blue.

We then reported in three rounds building the chart in order of importance. The results showed the following in the order of importance for need and planning.

1) Town Hall (16)

- More input on getting good ideas for town hall.
- Plan for what town hall need to be.
- Municipal building is important concept.
- Using historical material of Marble.
- Pictures of history of Marble.
- Buildings are historical sites
- An infrastructure plan like garage, hiring for maintenance.
- Town Hall/Community Center
- Municipal Building with Community Center with Kitchen
- Town Hall built next to the Marble Hub
- All possible locations analyzed before final decision
- Get ADA Compliance
- Wheelchair accessible
- Brail on signage as code requires
- Need for a safe for protection of documents and/or money
- Need architect, engineer and inspector
- Storage place for records and history
- Define storage needs
- File for photographs
- Consider parking, plowing, traffic patterns, speed and congestion
- Check to see if the law says that you have to have a licensed architect. Sometimes it is a state law. They would address such things as fire safety, egress, etc. Egress is more complicated than we realize.
- If we are under Gunnison County jurisdiction, and submit to county building department in Gunnison County (outside of Marble), they won't accept it if doesn't have an architect stamp. Is this a fact?

- Address liability issues. Structural engineers don't know codes related to human safety and function of buildings. Architect know this.
- Did Marble adopt the International Building Code?
- How do you get a grant without a code compliant building? If the process is done correctly and presented as such, grants are more easily obtained.
- Is Marble exempt from building codes? Building inspector on board at the beginning.
- If we're using public money, will Gunnison County accept plans without an architect's stamp/signature?
- We need to check with our Chief Building Inspector or official to be absolutely certain we are proceeding properly.
- Budget the project and itemize. Present proposal expenditures.
- Receive bids from contractors.
- Be a transparent project with the taxpayers from the very beginning. Related to architectural drawings, engineer's plans, budgets, etc. Present to your public.
- Give information out. Use your website and newsletter and public meetings.
- Our city attorney should know what our laws are to keep us on track.
- Proceed with the proper care to avoid adverse publicity and gain public support.
- HAVE A BUILDING COMMITTEE

Comments:

Ask the question of what the Office space will be used for....the public use for other than City Works.

What does Town Hall mean?
Do the research.

Display good governance by supplying answers to above concerns.

2) Road Maintenance (8)

- Winter time plus bi-annual street grading
- Including right of way for carbonate creek will help fire protection and paramedics
- Paved streets
- Begin with proper grading and road base
- Also address Beaver Lake parking
- ATV parking
- Improve snow removal in all of City streets
- Address the pot holes
- 4th Street

Comments:

Research dust and mag chloride health issues
Research all road surfaces and use the best solution.
Damage to auto and vehicle as result of unmaintained roads
Use the town clerk to research grants, and programs specifically for road improvements and maintenance.
Educate the town clerk in the art of writing a successful Grant.
Grant writing workshop.
“if we do this, let’s do this right!!!”

3) Street Signage (8)

- Lighted street signs
- Be consistent
- Fit in with beautification of Marble
- Help emergency units find locations easier and quicker
- Indicate community focal points
- Determine and meet legal signage codes per state, city, etc.
- Consider ease of maintenance
- Review need of replacements when damaged
- Update entrance sign to Marble
- NUMBER ONE priority is to Update entrance sign to Marble
- If signs are not lighted, then look into safety reflective
- Design an overall consistent plan.
- Include business signage support
- Signs could show which way to go (arrows?)
- Utilize an experienced person in planning and designing signs
- Historical sites indicated with signage

Comments:

The Signage should be particularly strong in Marble

4) **Communications (5)**

- Good for participation and planning
- Central web site
- Online Forum
- Newsletter
- Bulletin Board
- Community member piece at meetings
- Signage
- Create a good Public Relations Plan to gain the public trust.
- Implementation of a positive Marble image

Comments:

Web site has been set up by Ron. www.townofmarble.com

The Newsletter is being done.

A Bulletin Board is by The Hub. Need one that looks more official and is lit so can be read at night..

5) **Beautification
Program for Marble (4)**

- Signage
- Proceed with approved Mill Site Park plans
which includes Sculpture Garden, Pavilion and nature walk.
- Beautiful marble entrance to Marble
- Clean up fire hazard areas
- Encourage property owners
 - Develop a Social Campaign in Marble to Stop the Junk in Marble. Make it fun, bring the community together.
 - Give awards, etc. Radishes and Roses or something.
 - Clean up the Park.
 - Designate certain areas to target clean up.
 - Locate an area for industrial storage.
 - Investigate bear proof dumpsters.
 - Investigate a chipper/shredder for the City.
 - Define Zoning Areas in Marble.
 - Address the City laws for clean up in Park Areas.
 - Mow the Park.
 - Purchase proper equipment and hire someone to maintain both the Municipal Building and the Mill Site Park.

6) Art/Cultural (4)

- Kitchen in Art/ Cultural Center
at Thanos' old place. See what family has planned.
- Artist-in-residence Program
General Store would be studio
- Library in house across from museum
Discuss with Historical Society
 - Designate locations for Public Art. Develop a committee or Public Art Commission. Define areas for Public Art. Invite artists to submit proposals. Follow a process.
 - Provide a professional listing of artists on the computer Web Site.
 - Existing Sculpture Garden plans for the Mill Site Park to be given a budget to proceed with Request for Proposals for future sculptures. This has been in the works for a few years but needs a budget available to continue with approved proposal by the Town Council. Committee to adhere to the directives given for this project.

7) Create Community (4)

Focal Points

- Park Pavilion
- Community Garden
- Tennis, skating, hockey
- Parks
- Frisbee Golf
- Outdoor Theater
- Chess
- Band Cover
- Town Hall
- Sculpture Garden
- Marble Quarry
- Hiking Trails

Comments:

Marble is approximately two square miles in size.
Approximately 60 to 150 live in Marble depending on the time of year.

The Mill Site is 26 acres.

Educate the public about the uniqueness and history of the valley. Airport fly in. Lead King Basin Trail.

Photography workshops. Build a family reunion campsite retreat. Nature walks, fauna and flora. Nordic ski facility. Snowshoe trails. Create interest around the Sheep Run in September...Sheep Run Roundup Event. Coordinate with owners of sheep.

8) **Implementation: Governmental structure and implementation of Rules**

- The Mayor needs a gavel
- The Chairman writes the report
- Create a Marble Government Level Manual
- Procedure Book is needed with Rules & Regulations
- Plan and implement training transition of the Town Council members.
- Develop training sessions for leaders; Leadership Training Conference to educate potential leaders on what is being asked of you. Leadership Marble.
- Follow Roberts Rules of Order
- Address the need for an audit each year
- Research annexing properties and taxes....how is this done, and should we do it? Research thoroughly.
- Rules of decorum/civility for meetings.
- Should we follow the Redstone model where they are ruled by the county? Do the research; people need to be educated....what are the Pros and Cons?
- Town research take over water board

9) **Fundraising and Grants**

- Research Grant opportunities
- Yard sales
- Marble chips are available for a dollar donation to help maintain the Park
- Other

10. Continue Mill Site Park Committee

- Follow approved park plans until further direction and visitation.
- Continue with Sculpture Garden when a budget is Approved

11. High Speed Internet / Cell Phone Coverage

- Cell Transmitter
 - Bell Tower
 - Tower on McClure Ridge
 - Micro cells (home)
- Feasibility Study Needed
 - Rural & unserved area
 - Rural Health—rural telemedical
 - Define the reach of customer base.
 - Marble-Daniels Hill to Hwy 133, and down to Pitkin County line.
- Cost
 - \$15,000 per mile for fiber optics
 - 650K to 750K to install
 - Tower most expensive part
 - LLC Set-up, a co-op
 - Tech support---Jason Swenson
 - Salary employee and need engineer
 - Have a person to know how to write an application
 - Define a Grant writer fee
 - More control—Marble control
 - Less control—Century Link
- Funding
 - Microwave Tower needs to partner with Pitkin Co. Explore this.
 - Elephant Mountain? Good location but requires helicopter access.
 - Is Gunnison County interested?
 - Loans
 - Grants
 - USDA Grants. 10-15% match
 - Community Connect
 - Subscription fees / Income source for Marble
 - In Kind

- Town of Marble
 - Can we demonstrate the system is sustainable once grant ends?
 - Sell stock in operating utility
 - Find the Grants
- Time Frame
 - Six months for grant application
 - Six months to get system built

Final open conversation and thoughts:

- Make a comprehensive plan; the last time Marble had a plan was in 1994
- Marble is a net loss of \$250,000.00 to Gunnison County
- Most municipalities make money on water and sewer
- Ask Bob Leone for plans made 12-15 years ago for a recreation center in Marble. Where are the plans?
- Hire a City Planner
- Prioritize
- Clean everything up in the town.
- Address financial issues. Identify financial resources. Set up a structure for allocation of funds. Currently it is difficult to make a plan because of money and disasters
- Create a Municipal League to identify the next set of leaders
- Continue to build relationships with the Crystal River Drainage
- Work on continuity of aesthetics
- Use Planning as a Road Map
- Develop a sparkle of magic in the area
- Develop a thoughtful, thinking, fun, can do atmosphere
- Look at this process as a turning point in Marble History with definitive direction, community awareness and support and enthusiasm.
- Be thoughtful, respectful and mindful of your neighbors and visitors to the area.
- Honor the beauty of the land and consider it a privilege to be stewards of its' overwhelming embrace.
- Respect the land as the living breathing thing it is
- Understand that it is our obligation to maintain the magnificent beauty, integrity and uniqueness of Marble and the surrounding area going forward.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1) Form a committee for each of the major categories
- 2) Have a citizen be the chairman of a committee.
- 3) Have one city council person represented on each committee.
- 4) Include our different age groups on each committee to help develop our future leaders.
- 5) If the committee is not active, determine what is holding up the action and help it get back on target and thrive.
- 6) Request committee reports to be in written form as well as verbal to help with accuracy of documentation.
- 7) All categories listed are important to the citizens. They recommend determining the priority and tackling two or three at a time. Complete them before moving on to the next.
- 8) Please address all categories as time and money will allow and in the order of importance.

Everything is recorded as the groups presented so that ideas are preserved at this point and time. With involvement of more citizens, this can change and evolve. That will be fine because this is a good beginning. **A huge thank you to the citizens that attended and gave of their precious time.**

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Hendrix