



A Grander Vision for the Heartland

Grow Grand Island Committee Meeting

Please complete and email to Nicki Stoltenberg (nickis@grand-island.com) within one week of the meeting.

Thursday, July 16, 2015

Implementation Committee

Attending:

Amos Anson
Carlos Barcenas
Mary Berlie
Tonja Broadwell
Robin Dexter
Linna Dee Donaldson
Marlan Ferguson
Matt Fisher
Ken Gnadt
Jay Gnuse
Bill Hunter
Mayor Jeremy Jensen
Cindy Johnson
Jay Kaspar

Dan McElligott
Brad Mellema
Tammy Morris
Ray O'Connor
Mike Olson
Karen Rathke
Jane Richardson *
Tammy Slater
Don Smith
Tim Smith*
Nicki Stoltenberg
Gloria Thesenvitz

*denotes new members to the
implementation group

Pam Lancaster
Joseph McDermott

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION / WHO	WHEN
Grow Grand Island website and social media outlets	Nicki briefly reviewed the Grow Grand Island (GGI) website, located at www.growgrandisland.com , as well as GGI's facebook and twitter accounts. The GGI website includes <i>tabs</i> to include the following information: Implementation Pillars (to include individual initiatives and measurable updates from committees), Teams (committee members), Implementation Grid, and an opportunity to Get Involved. Nicki, along with Tara Purdie at the Chamber, are working on translating the GGI website for the Spanish speaking community. The Implementation Grip will also be translated to meet the needs to volunteers.	Encourage volunteers and implementation committee to visit the website and "like" GGI's facebook page	
Committee Meeting Updates:			
Joseph McDermott Initiative #5.5	<p>Group 5.5 is working towards establishing an incentive fund to encourage groups/events to host events, utilizing Grand Island facilities. The Heartland Shooting Park and GILCA are examples of groups that would be eligible for incentive funding.</p> <p>Joseph mentioned the possibility of utilizing Grand Island's Food and Beverage tax to include into the incentive packages. City Administrator Marlan Ferguson and Mayor Jeremy Jenson stated that they have begun discussions with eating establishments to identify the impact of renewing the tax as well as the City's Legal Department to identify appropriate ballot language. The tax renewal will most likely be given to voters during the November 2016 primary election.</p> <p>A promotional video, showcasing Grand Island's livestock facilities and amenities was developed in partnership with the Chamber, CVB, State Fair, and Fonner Park.</p>		
Ray O'Connor Initiative #5.9	Group 5.9 has identified two areas of vacant residential land that would be suitable for senior citizen and/or CROWN (rent to own) housing. In order to make these initiatives work, economically, a tax credit opportunity would need to be made available to the project. Currently, there are 150 people on Ray O'Connor's waiting list for housing and an additional 115 people on the Hall County Housing Authority's waiting list.		

	<p>Karen Rathke, also with initiative #5.9, stated that the group is working to identify troubled properties, both Single Family Dwellings (SFD) and Multi-family Dwellings (MFD), that do not meet the City's PRT standards, but are still considered substandard. The group continues to inspect other rental home inspection programs.</p>		
<p>Bill Hunter: Initiative #1.1</p>	<p>Group 1.1 stated they have struggled getting businesses to complete the extensive BRE (state-provided) survey. They will continue to engage employers to get the most up to date community information, directly affecting their business and their employees.</p>		
<p>Mike Olson Initiative #5.7</p>	<p>Group 5.7 reviewed the Central Nebraska Regional Airport's progress constructing a new terminal. With the expanded need for air transportation, the group identified they would like to see a third flight to Dallas per week vs one flight to Chicago. This decision was based on redundancy and the ability to travel anywhere in the world through Grand Island.</p>		
<p>Carlos Barcenas Initiative #5.16</p>	<p>Group 5.16 is focused on identifying <i>what</i> cultural engagement means to different audiences, specifically 1st, 2nd, and 3rd generation immigrants. Additionally, the group will take a close look at how the group horizontally integrates cultural engagement through all pillars and initiatives of the GGI Implementation Grid. The group will work towards translating the Implementation Grid to assist Spanish speaking individuals become involved.</p>		
<p>Pam Lancaster Initiative #5.6</p>	<p>Pam stated this group has had difficulty meeting because of conflicting summer schedules. Pam indicated that the Hall County Board recently passed the reinstatement of a County Building Inspector, a priority in the Grander Vision plan before the two merged.</p>		
<p>Don Smith Initiative #3.3</p>	<p>Group 3.3 has partnered with Clean Community and the South Locust BID to identify ways to spruce up the 6 entrance points into Grand Island. The group stated that not only do the entrances need landscaping, but possibly artwork and sculptures throughout the community. The group is researching landscaping grants and alternative funding sources.</p>		
<p>Linna Dee Donaldson Initiative #5.14</p>	<p>Linna Dee stated that the Group is focused on promoting National Night Out on August 4, 2015. The group has raised their goal to 25 neighborhoods participating in the</p>		

	event.		
Tammy Morris Initiative #5.12	Group 5.12 began its first meeting participating in “asset mapping”. The group identified all of Grand Island’s current assets, events, and modes of communication. The second portion of the meeting was spent identifying “dream/ future” assets and events. The group was mindful of overlapping assets with other initiatives, specifically downtown.		
Tonja Brown Initiative #1.4	The local sourcing group is researching Grand Island business’s purchasing practices and identifying what the businesses purchase local vs. from an out of town company. The next step will be to determine why businesses purchase products outside of Grand Island and ways to make it more cost effective to purchase within.		
Mayor Jeremy Jensen Initiative #5.1			
Jay Gnuse Initiative #1.6	Jay’s group has spent a significant amount of time identifying a goal of the group and what additional people need to be invited to the table.		
Robin Dexter Initiative #4.1	<p>Group 4.1 has identified the following as potential pathways that could be implemented at Career Pathways Institute:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logistics (the coordination of moving products) • Appraisals • HVAC • Masonry • Sales Representatives and Call Centers • Hospitality and Tourism • Internships <p>Robin’s group is also looking at best practice models for community wide childcare. Affordable, safe childcare is an increasing concern for employers in the community. If their staff does not have appropriate, trustworthy childcare, it can affect productivity and labor depth. The group is taking a close look at legislative opportunities.</p>		
Karen Rathke Initiative # 5.15	Group 5.15 identified Grand Island’s vulnerable population to include, but is not limited to the following:		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals faced with poverty • Anyone without access to proper transportation or housing • Veterans • Immigrants • Adolescents, particularly the teens noted as “couch surfers”. These are teens without a permanent residence and “bounce” from house to house (friends, family, teachers, coaches). Additionally, teen parents are considered at-risk. Karen stated that out of every 1,000 births in Grand Island, 58 children are born to a teen parent. 		
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION / WHO	WHEN
GGI Executive Board Meeting Report	<p>Mayor Jeremy Jensen informed the IC that a separate 501(c)3 would be formed as part of GGI. Linna Dee Donaldson suggested calling the (c)3 “Patriot Point”.</p> <p>Members of the Executive Board include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Taylor • Cindy Johnson • Gloria Thesenvitz • Brad Mellema • Tony Schultz • Pam Lancaster • Jane Richardson • Don Smith • Mayor Jeremy Jensen • Marlan Ferguson • Jay Kaspar 		

Next meeting, web site info., other notes, etc.:

Volunteer Hours: _____