

**Grow Grand Island Committee Meeting Report Form**

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

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| **Launch EnGIne (Initiative 1.6)** | **Objective –** as described in Grow GI. Launch enGIne – Engaging The Next Generation of Grand Island, Nebraska – A comprehensive leadership development and community service program that cultivates the next generation of business leadership in Grand Island. |
| **Meeting Date: August 25, 2015** |  |

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| **Attending:** Michala Soundy (GI Chamber), Emily Thayer (GI Chamber), Jack Sheard (GIPS & Leadership Tomorrow), Jessica Hendricks (Congressman Smith & YP), Cindy Johnson (GI Chamber), Brenda Branstiter (Leadership Tomorrow), Jay Gnuse (Chief Industries, Inc. & Leadership Tomorrow), Tyler Doane (JEO Consulting Group), Karen Rathke (United Way), Tammy Morris (GI Community Foundation), Barrett Hahn (LT and YP), Sarah Bennett (Young Professionals).  Not able to attend: Carolyn Thayer, Adam Redwine, and Hunter Moural - CYC |

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| **TOPIC** | **DISCUSSION** | **ACTION / WHO** | **WHEN** |
| **Review of Minutes from Last Meeting** – Jay reviewed the minutes of discussion from last meeting. |  |  |  |
| **Brief History of Grow Grand Island and Grander Vision**  Johnson provided a brief overview of the Grow Grand Island and Grander Vision processes and reviewed the objective (1.6) this group would be addressing. |  |  |  |
| **Social Media** – Jay requested that everyone connect on social media (www.growgrandisland.com) |  | All |  |

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| **Creation of a Leadership Council** **Jay Gnuse**  Discussion was held on the organizations or entities that currently offer leadership training/programs. Last meeting, we discussed approaching people from each of these organizations:   * Current representation   + LT (Leadership Tomorrow)   + YP (Young Professionals)   + GIPS   + GI Chamber   + CYC – Community Youth Council   + United Way – Karen Rathke * We would like to add representation from these organizations   + NW/GICC/Heartland – CYC   + CNHRMA (Central Nebraska Human Resource Management Association)  SHRM is the national group (Society of Human Resource Management) Kevin Fries   + Doane College Leadership Program – Jennifer Worthington   + CCC – Thomas Walker   + LEAD program – Rural Leadership – Jessica to check (program might not fit, but the alumni would be good for speakers and other reference).   + Leadership Nebraska Roberta (Cindy)   + Connecting Young Nebraskans   + Nebraskans for Civic Reform   + Others? |  |  |  |
| **Update and Discussion on Additional Research Cindy Johnson**  We discussed our objective and came up with something along this lines: Leadership council to cultivate leadership, help leadership organizations market themselves. Engage more people in the community.  Should we include this as well: Leadership council to help market leadership opportunities? |  |  |  |
| **Survey**  We also discussed survey options knowing that the survey from Grow GI was from Business community surveys from about 1,700 people. Do we want to survey businesses to see what is missing? What data do we want from a survey? |  |  |  |
| **Next Steps** – Karen is going to come up with 4 questions for the survey. |  | Karen Rathke | October 31 |
| **Next Meeting** – The next meeting date has not been set. We will first develop the questions for the survey, then call the group together. |  |  |  |
| **Initiative 1.6: Launch enGIne**  During the stakeholder input process, many business leaders expressed a desire to see a more intentional effort to develop young business leaders in the community. Some feared that the community will struggle to retain its best and brightest in the years and decades ahead, while others simply wanted to ensure that the business community and its leaders maintain a sense of corporate responsibility and a level of community engagement. Countless communities around the country attempt to develop the next generation of business leadership through formal leadership programs that often focus educating these individuals about different aspects of the community so that they can find their area of interest, become more engaged, and eventually, lead. While these programs have demonstrated their value year after year, they often fall short in one key area: providing participants with actual leadership opportunities.  The Grand Island business development community should evaluate interest in developing a program – Engaging the Next Generation of Grand Island, Nebraska (ENGINE) – to provide a variety of different opportunities for young professionals to become involved in the community improvement and business development initiatives, including but not limited to other initiatives identified in this *Grow Grand Island* Business Development Strategy. Consideration should be given to the potential for ENGINE to align its membership and programming with that of Leadership Tomorrow.  Guidelines should be established for eligible participants, potentially restricting participation to those between certain ages (such as 25 – 44). The program would establish “work groups” that focus on specific areas of interest to the ENGINE membership. Such work groups could align with the five “pillars” of this strategy or could focus on other issuers such as community beautification, parks and recreation, or other quality of life attributes. The program would require new members to participate in a brief, half-day session (potentially held quarterly) to expose individuals to the various workgroups and their missions and agenda, and help pair them with workgroups that align with their interest(s). Participating individuals could be “sponsored” by their place of employment, requiring an annual fee to cover administrative costs of the program as well as monies to support the implementation of volunteer-led efforts. Alternatively, a fundraising “workgroup” could be established to support other workgroups while providing opportunities for interested individuals to gain experience in fundraising and program development.  Ultimately, the goals of the program should be to:  1. Develop the next generation of business leadership.  2. Expand the base of residents and businesses actively volunteering in the community.  3. Promote corporate and individual responsibility and ownership for community improvement.  4. Support talent retention by creating meaningful, lasting connections to the community among young, future leaders. |  |  |  |