Direction 2030 Planning Task Force

Meeting 4

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Attendance

Present

Paul Darpel, Shad Sletto, Tom France, Chuck Eilerman, Marc Hult, Bob Miller, Frank Smith, Beverly Willman,

NKAPC Staff

Keith Logsdon, Sharmili Reddy, Edward Dietrich

Minutes

1) The meeting opened with introductions.

2) Direction 2030 timeline

Ms Reddy handed out a timeline for the completion of Direction 2030 to the Task Force. The outline listed the activities to be accomplished, which staff person was responsible for each activity, and the time frame for when the activity would be completed. Each category of activities was briefly explained by Ms. Reddy.

Issues raised during this presentation where as follows – We will try and stay in touch with Sister Mendez at Cristo Ray and let her know about our upcoming public meetings so she can inform her constituents. We will contact Bennie Doggett at Oasis to try and start a dialog with the African American community in Covington. We will talk with Bill Scheyer to try and get a meeting with Legacy.

After the second set of public meetings and the elected officials meeting, sometime in the fall, there will be a rough outline of what the comp plan will look like, at least in regards to the goals and objectives.
3) Public input matrix

Mr. Dietrich presented the Public Input Matrix to the Task Force. The matrix is a spreadsheet with the input gathered from the public meetings, special group meetings, and the Technical Task Force divided into issue categories. This matrix will serve as our discussion guide for the next set of meetings.

Public services and who provides those services is becoming an issue. An example of this is south Covington is very different from north Covington. The city provides fire, police services to the area but the children go to Kenton Co. schools; it is possible that the Kenton Co sheriffs department can cover that area better than the city police force can. The consolidation of services did come up in the public meeting, and staff will look to the Planning Task Force for guidance on how strongly to advocate for this in the comp plan.

Providing services is an issue in southern Kenton Co. They want bus service. Staff will talk with TANK to understand what it will take to get bus service to that area. Staff will need to build a case showing that it can be accomplished. TANK has serious funding issues at this time because of state actions. The plan can bring attention to the need for bus service to certain areas and the limitations facing the system.

The process to decide what the Goals and Objectives will be – Staff has the major issues from the public and TTF already. The next couple of public meetings and the next TTF meetings will explore these issues further. Staff will bring these findings to the planning task force with recommendations. The planning task force will discuss these issues and the recommendations on actions to be taken with staff.

It is recommended that staff talk with the people that were involved in the forum on consolidation of services that was held at the Carnegie. If possible staff should include information; they presented, and gathered at the forum.

Staff will come up with a list of issues they think are important to discuss and send it out to the members of planning task force.

4) Public meeting outline

The first meeting of the second round of meetings is scheduled for June 14th at Ludlow high school from 6 to 8 pm. It is for the entire county. The second meeting of this set will be located farther south in the county.

Ms Reddy and Mr. Dietrich presented the outline for the next public meeting. This meeting will have three parts. The first is an overview of the housing market by Michael Dinn, a round table question and answer session with local experts in relevant areas on housing and health, and then an open microphone for the public to ask questions.
Health is a big issue because it is an important factor of walkability. It did not come up much in the public meetings but it is becoming more important for all levels of government, as well as employers. Walkability is being viewed as an important element in this country’s fight against obesity and diabetes.

The plan is to discuss these major issues in context with all the other major topics. All the issues inner relate to each other and staff want to illustrate this as much as possible. Staff can not address everything but focus on the issues that the public think need improving and what has the most impact on the quality of life in the county.

Discussion on the best approach for the public meetings – A concern about the amount of time provided to discuss each topic was raised. Several PTF members thought more time is needed for each issue. Staff would learn more from the public with fewer issues being discussed. Others thought that this more detailed information would come from the TTF meetings. Three topics were thought too many. Two topics were considered a better fit for the meeting.

The idea for the second meeting is as follows. A presentation on the local economy from a local expert, a round table discussion on two topics, one of which will be economics of the county, and a work session with the attendees to allow the public more direct involvement in the planning process.

5) Elected officials meeting

This idea came up from some participants at the public meetings. Staff is still working out the details for this meeting. The planning commission member will be the lead in informing their city officials and getting all or some of their city officials to the meeting. For this meeting the city officials need to tell us what they need and want in the comp plan.

Ideas for this meeting – Before the meeting send out a list of questions to the cities for them to gather information from their residents. Send the city officials an outline spelling out what topics will be discussed. The PTF believe it is important that the cities tell us what they and their residents want; cities and county need to be involved in the planning process.

6) General discussion

Staff is planning on changing the Direction 2030 website to make it easier for the public to find information. A summary of the findings from the meetings will be posted. Staff is using Facebook, Twitter, email blasts, newsletters, and newspaper stores to attract attention and generate feedback from the public.