



STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Meeting Summary

Tuesday, December 4, 2018

Welcome

Committee Chairperson Clif Grimes welcomed and shared thanks and compliments to sub-chairs and other participants, some of whom were present. Those in attendance were Peter Crichton, Bob Stone, Rachel Collamore, Adam Lee, Phillip Crowell, Dave Gonyea, Jody Durisko, Michael Chammings, Leroy Walker, Jodi Redmun, Steve Welks, Rosemary Mosher, Holly Lasagna, and Mary Sylvester.

- Steve Welks shared his observation that the Invest subcommittee seemed heavy with politicians and staff. Despite this he felt that it was a great evening. Peter Crichton responded that several members of the Invest subcommittee were not present at the launch and that this may have impacted discussions. He questioned whether and how staff should be participating in subcommittee discussions. To which Leroy Walker was hesitant to put a cap on what staff can say or how they participate because their knowledge and values are an important input in the productivity of subcommittee discussions. Most of those present agreed as well and that elected officials should refrain from political debate and that the participation of city employees was acceptable.
- Bob Stone noted great citizen involvement and appreciated the communication opportunity the breakout sessions provided. He recommended allowing for more brainstorming time at future events. Rachel Collamore noted that the Growth subcommittee did not take the time to do introductions which might have been helpful. Mary Sylvester agreed that the night was a success but that it was sometimes hard to hear over the conversations of other subcommittees. Michael Chammings observed how his subcommittee group became hung up on school issues. Jodi Redmun suggested a reiteration of the ground rules. The ground rules will be emailed to all members of the strategic planning committee and subgroup members.
- Clif observed that it took some time for some people to warm up and this may have kept some members from sharing. Holly Lasagna agreed and suggested a that a post-launch survey could provide an opportunity for those who were unable or unwilling to speak at the launch be able to do so. Holly Lasagna, Mary Sylvester, and Adam Lee felt that the survey should focus on what members value and “love” about their communities and that the focus shouldn’t be on what needs to be “fixed” but the assets of the City of Auburn.
- The issue of structuring meeting so we are not duplicating efforts and not interfering with the duties of other City entities (i.e keeping discussions at a higher altitude, or reprioritization of funds). There was some concurrence and the suggestion that an overlap was beneficial since it offered a broader perspective on issues that impact all three subgroups. Phillip Crowell brought up the major themes that emerged from the conversations and how they might be used to direct efforts and Mary Sylvester talked about providing subcommittee members with educational resources.