

MEETING MINUTES

Focusing Forward

Gelman Plume Community Engagement

February 27, 2017

9:00 am to 11:00 am

Location: Washtenaw County, Zeeb Road

The meeting commenced at 9:05 a.m.

Present: Jenni Conn, Shana Milkie, Matt Naud, Kathy Shirey, Mitch Adelman, Sue Kirinovic, and Jerry Jennings

Introductions and Review of the Agenda:

The group went around the table and made introductions. This was the first time Kathy Shirey had met with the planning group.

Mitch - Reintroduce the project and explain Jerry's role:

Mitch reviewed Jerry's role as facilitator for this group.

Represent the updated plan: ~ Review the Focusing Forward document:

**This is a specific process – Does this basic idea make sense at this given time?
Are there questions?**

- Jerry Jennings is under contract with DEQ as the facilitator on the Focusing Forward Gelman Plume Community Engagement.
- There was discussion of possible concerns regarding possible legal issues in relationship to the Focusing Forward and the impact it may have on current legal cases.
- It was suggested that language be added to the Focusing Forward document to clarify that the work of this group is not a legal strategy. The goal will be to add language that clarifies that this group is not negotiating a legal agreement of any kind.
- DEQ will have to decide what "clarifying" language may be added to the Focusing Forward document, because the Focusing Forward project was initiated and is managed by DEQ.
- The hopes for Focusing Forward are that this process will lead to input from the group on recommendations to the DEQ on how to focus the remainder of state allocated money on this site.

- The group discussed changes noted on the Focusing Forward document with relationship to interviews taking place with invited persons that wish to participate in the Focusing Forward group. Discussion included whether other members of the planning group would want to be in on the discussions with the individuals nominated to participate.

Begin to create a list of individuals to invite to be members of the Focusing Forward work group:

- The group discussed possible invitees, including area municipalities and stakeholders.

Begin to look at the Retreat ~ Explore when and where:

- Mitch reported he had checked on the Ralph MacMullan Conference Center at Higgins Lake for May, June, July, and August for both one night and two nights.
- Concern was expressed that most individuals participating in the retreat are not being paid to do so, and that could cause hardship for participants to stay for two nights and three days.
- It is important for the location to be far enough away so that evening sessions are for people involved to spend time together and form relationships.
- The MacMullan Center is available May 24-26 and August 7-9 and 21-25. It is not available in July.
- Other possible locations to look at include: Kettunen Center and Pierce Cedar Creek, and possibly Highland Recreation Center.
- The group discussed the pros and cons of a one night retreat versus a two night retreat and when to hold the retreat. More were in favor of a one night retreat with longer day sessions on either side of the overnight. Doing four evenings in the Ann Arbor area was also suggested.
- Mitch will look at dates in July, August and September for one night, as well as the Broad Center (Henry Center for Executive Development located in the University Club in East Lansing).

Developing Ground Rules ~ Begin to formulate the Ground Rules for the retreat:

- A few ideas were shared for possible ground rules for the planning group. Some ideas included:

- Need to attend retreat and all meetings – collaborative participation
- Willingness to listen to all ideas
- The group requested that Jerry e-mail possible ground rules for the planning group, as a jumping off point. These will be for reference and discussion at the next planning meeting.

Discuss possible plans to keep the community members informed of the Focusing Forward process and general progress:

- Discussion included being specific about this group’s charge and how the group can make recommendations to DEQ.
- Work to do includes: putting together a calendar for possible public meetings and/or public events, trying to be specific about such meetings and events.
- The group discussed how often to hold meetings to keep the community informed.

Other:

- Need to put together a brief application, explain possible technical background, where they live, how long they have been there, etc.
- Jerry offered to present a draft of letter of invite at the next planning group meeting.

Create a schedule for future meetings of the planning group:

- The planning group has set the following dates to meet at Washtenaw County, Zeeb Road:
 - Wednesday, March 15 3-5 p.m. (Jenni will not be able to attend)
 - Thursday, March 30 1-3 p.m. (Matt will not be able to attend)
 - Monday, April 10 3-5 p.m.
 - Thursday, April 13 9-11 a.m.
 - Tuesday, April 25 9-11 a.m.

Jenni will reserve meeting rooms.

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Sue Kirinovic, Scribe

Adopted March 15, 2017