



Grand Vision Growth & Investment Areas

Regional Network Meeting

Monday, April 11th, 2011: 10a.m. – 11a.m.

202 E. Grandview Pkwy – T.C. Chamber of Commerce Bldg, Steelcase Room

Mission Statement: Facilitate the growth and entrepreneurial culture of unique cities and villages that strengthen our region by encouraging business development, removing barriers, utilizing incentives, and fostering public and private improvements.

Proposed Agenda

I. Welcome & Introductions

- A. Roundtable Introductions
- B. Review Proposed Agenda
- C. Review 1/10/11 Minutes

II. Ongoing Business (10:10 a.m.)

- A. Community Growth Grant Updates (R. Richardson, S. Gest, Jan Kellogg and/or Grantee Communities and local units)
- B. G&I Placemaking Subcommittee (N.Griswold/NWMCOG)
 - a) TC Young Professionals Community & State Involvement Committee (N.Griswold/NWMCOG)

III. New Business (10:25 a.m.)

- A. Discussion Focused on Regional Loan Fund Availability to Businesses (Chris Wendell, SBTDC)
 - a. Potential for a Business Financing Subcommittee?

V. Public Comment (10:55 a.m.)

VI. Adjourn

This meeting is open to all who wish to attend. If you are planning to attend and have a disability requiring any special assistance at the meeting, please notify the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments – Nigel Griswold (231-929-5056/E-mail at nigelgriswold@nwm.cog.mi.us)



Grand Vision Growth and Investment Areas Working Group
Meeting Minutes from April 11th, 2011
10:00am-Noon
T.C. Chamber Building, Steelcase Room

Mission Statement: Facilitate the growth and entrepreneurial culture of unique cities and villages that strengthen our region by encouraging business development, removing barriers, utilizing incentives, and fostering public and private improvements.

Members Present

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|--|---|---|
| Nigel Griswold NWMCOG nigelgriswold@nwmcog.mi.us | Kathy Egan Suttons Bay/Bingham Twp. sbtplan@centurytel.net | Wally Dolamater Village of Suttons Bay manager@suttonsbayvillage.com |
| Debbie McKeon Rotary Charities/NorthSky dmckeon@northskynonprofitnetworking.org | Marc McKellar Member's Credit Union marcm@memberscu.com | Conner Miller AmeriCorp Vista thegrandvisionvolunteer@gmail.com |
| Kurt Schindler MSU Extension Schindl9@msu.edu | Jim Lively MLUI jim@mlui.org | Rob Franzo Mitten Communications rob@mittencom.com |
| Blake Smith USDA Rural Development Blake.smith@mi.usda.gov | Scott Gest COG/TC Chamber scottgest@nwm.cog.mi.us | John Hoagland LCEDC-TBEDC-MLUI jthoagland@earthlink.net |
| Ted Bagley tbagley@yahoo.com Grand Traverse Center | Tom Emling emlingt@msu.edu MSU | Keith Waters keithwaters@nwm.cog.mi.us NWMCOG |
| John Sych jsych@grandtraverse.org GT County Planning and Development | Erick Takayama Acme Township Trustee Etak4gto@sbcglobal.net | |

Introductions

Nigel Griswold

Agenda Review

Added a section to 'Ongoing Business' that focused on the expanded Grand Traverse County Revolving Loan Fund - now serving the 6-county Grand Vision region.

Review of Minutes

No changes

Guides to Permitting and Zoning

Updates were provided that the document should be ready for marketing and launch in the near future. All documents have been created in a final draft form, but they are going to be on a disc together and distributed, therefore the last county to approve the document sets the date for release. Leelanau County is still in the review process.

Community Growth Grant Updates

Updates from Empire and Suttons Bay. Empire is nearly complete, and the wi-fi system fees and sustainability plan is set. They will have wi-fi up and running by May 21st (Asparagus Festival). Suttons Bay is in great shape with their streetscape plan. They are leveraging their grant with MDOT and other major organizations to increase effectiveness of their plan when implemented.

CEDS 2011

Discussed the 5 focused goals and associated strategies for the 2011 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy for the region. Also focused on the shortened versions of the large documents called "CEDS Light," which summarizes the 5 goals on a front-and-back document. The other side of CEDS Light document is specialized to each of the 10 NWMCOG counties which gives a map and some vital "dashboard" performance statistics for each county.

TC Young Professional and Grand Vision G&I Placemaking Task Force/Subcommittee

Both the TC Young Professional and the Grand Vision Growth and Investment Network have embraced placemaking as an effective economic development strategy to focus energy on. These two groups are in their infancy, but vision, mission, goals and strategies are being defined and mandates are becoming defined.

Grand Traverse County Master Plan with John Sych

John Sych of the Grand Traverse County Planning & Development Dept. provided an explanation of the process for the new GT Master Plan. This plan has partnered with every local unit of government in the county and focused on collaboration to make it a comprehensive forward movement approach. Very innovative.

Next Meeting

Monday, May 9th, 2011

10am

Steelcase Room, T.C. Chamber Building, 202 E. Grandview Parkway, Traverse City, MI 49684

Grand Vision Growth & Investment Network Placemaking Subcommittee

Mission Statement

Incubate, facilitate and support strategic initiatives that increase quality of place assets in the Grand Vision region to attract and retain talented entrepreneurs and knowledge workers critical to our future economic prosperity.

Goal

- Strengthen Quality of Place in the Grand Vision Region

Strategies to Reach Task Force Goal

1. Revitalize and recreate vibrant cities and villages where people want to live, work and play by:
 - a. facilitating higher-density multi-use economic development in downtowns, at key nodes and along major corridors;
 - b. enhancing cultural and entertainment assets as attractors for additional economic investment;
 - c. celebrating diversity and cultivating a welcoming place for all people.
2. Target community investments on place-based improvements to attract knowledge workers and their families with a special focus on green infrastructure investments, parks, trails, recreational areas, and bicycle and pedestrian connections throughout the community and with adjoining villages and rural areas.
3. Target catalytic investment in key growth centers and in key rural economic engines.
4. Target investments in rural communities that support expansion of their natural asset-based economies and provide quality living opportunities to those talented workers who prefer a rural environment and its amenities.
5. Leverage vacant properties and brownfield sites to support redevelopment that targets businesses and residential development attractive to knowledge workers, the creative class and 25-34 year olds.
6. Identify regional assets that serve to celebrate and enhance or create businesses and jobs around the 4-seasons (residents & tourists).
7. Expand housing and transportation choices (affordability and type) in regional investment areas.
8. Preserve the scenic beauty of the region.
9. Local units of government, business leaders and arts and cultural organizations increase the visibility and connectivity of public art.
10. Inventory the location and clustering of key cultural facilities and activities and develop joint business opportunities and market those facilities and activities.
 - a. Emphasize the food movement in the region by marketing our farm products to attract tourists and keep our landscape beautiful.
 - b. Provide internet connection/capability throughout all public places in both urban, suburban and rural locations throughout the region.
 - c. Implementing “smart growth” practices that allow for appropriate growth that mitigates the negative impacts of sprawl and maintain identity of communities.