

Stafford Hamlet Vision Committee Meeting  
1/8/09  
Athey Creek Middle School

Sally Quimby expressed concern over presenting only one plan at the Town hall for people, that it could prove disasterous and lead to bad press. Based on her managerial experience, it's better to give multiple options and ask why/how people ranked, then make a decision based on all of that information.

Elizabeth Normand detailed how she thought the Town Hall should go:

Do not present a plan, but only basic elements summarizing what we came up with at the Saturday meeting in December. Offer a reflection of what we have heard from the Hamlet, including agreement areas, 'foundational elements', and "what's off the table." The town hall format needs to be engaging so people really hear what is said and feel part of the discussion. Do not use the word "vote"; voting can cause polarization. We just want a sense of where there is agreement, thus we can use color codes to gauge response. Give people an idea of the "emerging vision", let them know they are building a plan and part of the process. Thus by March, the final version of the plan/statement will meet the most critical criteria. The actual vote should be anti-climactic.

The community tends to come along with the consensus of this group. In terms of the way things often go in these kind of processes, you are getting very good participation. The community is indicating they have trust in what you are doing.

Mike Miller expressed concern over getting bogged down in areas we do not have control over, such as EFU land.

Elizabeth encouraged people to remember that there is a difference between the vision and how you get there, which has many possible ways.

General thoughts on reserve designation:

Jay Minor said it is important that we know the minimums people can live with in regards to EFU and what people can live with in terms of density. Ann Culter added that it would be interesting to know how Hamlet residents would vote on how they feel about Urban or Rural reserve designation. Elizabeth countered that this was a "how" to get to the vision and that agreement on the vision itself must come first.

Walt said he believes few places will even be studied for rural reserve designation. He thinks urban reserve will go to areas thought to support jobs, thus urban studies will determine areas affected. Otherwise, most everywhere else will be left alone. Scott and Walt agreed that the Town Hall information should be general. John added that even if people don't give feedback at the Town Hall, it is important to encourage people to give feedback in some way.

Amy sought clarification of the goal of the Town Hall. David Halseth offered a tentative agenda: Introduction; Discussion of where we are and how we got there; Scott's presentation (overlay maps); Neighborhood presentations.

David Adams stated that neighbors really need to consider each other's ideas (other neighborhoods). Elizabeth agreed this is part of making the Town Hall engaging and that it is important to avoid one person as presenter because this could lose the attention of some.

Walt urged everyone to google "community vision plan" to see examples. At Town Hall it will be important to let people know what they can expect in terms of the final vision plan. Also Hamlet should consider hiring a planner like Robert Perome to give us a picture of the vision that can be sensible. Jay reminded everyone that Tom Vanderzanden, a retired transportation planner for Clackamas County, will be speaking at Monday night's meeting.

Sally stated that for whoever does the introduction at the Town Hall, it is important to state that the committee members are working hard to keep people informed. People should be directed to the website for information and contact numbers of people they can talk with one-on-one. There was general agreement that this was a good idea.

Jack English stated that if only 25 people show then the information gathered won't mean much.

Action item:

Elizabeth and Scott will meet after this meeting and hammer out an agenda for the Town Hall.