

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
STEERING COMMITTEE
CITY OF HUDSON
Monday, February 3, 2020

The Hudson Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee meeting was called to order by Johnson at 1:05 p.m.

PRESENT. Rich O'Connor, Fred Yoerg, Tiffany Weiss, Michael Mroz, and Michael Johnson.

ABSENT. Jim Webber, and Aaron Reeves.

OTHERS PRESENT. Brea Grace.

Discussion and possible action on January 6, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion by Yoerg, seconded by Mroz to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2020 Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee. All Ayes (5). Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

None.

NEW BUSINESS.

Community Survey Results Update. Grace gave an update on the number of surveys received online through POLCO which came out to 180 total surveys done (last month, there were 178 completed online surveys). O'Connor inquired as to how many hard copies of surveys were received. Weiss noted that 12 had been received thus far. Grace stated that the numbers will begin to increase though once the postcard mailing is sent out.

Johnson noted that staff is working on compiling residential addresses within the City in preparation for the mailing. Weiss noted that the spreadsheet of residential addresses came from the Utility Billing Department and will require some cleanup due to apartment numbers getting lost in the transfer. Weiss also noted that staff had gotten in contact with Helmer Printing to perform the printing and mailing on the City's behalf. Helmer gave a couple of quotes (one for the USPS mailing system which includes ~13,900 addresses for both residential and commercial properties; one for the utility billing address list of ~5,250 addresses). The USPS address list was projected to cost \$6,116. The utility billing addresses list was projected to cost \$2,360. Staff will be working on cleaning the utility billing address list so the cost of the mailing comes out inexpensively.

Public Engagement Planning. Staff noted that a couple of the proposed questions were revised or removed internally. Weiss stated that the Carmichael Road and Vine Street intersection question was amended to include the entire Carmichael Road Corridor. The question would be updated into the form of a 'prioritization' question that asks residents to prioritize their Top 3 improvements that they would like to see done first. Yoerg inquired if the corridor study extends to the further north part of Carmichael Road. Mroz mentioned that it does not because that stretch of the road had received no complaints in recent years. O'Connor requested that dollar amounts be incorporated into the Carmichael Road question next to each improvement project. Yoerg mentioned that the committee will be fighting a negative mentality with the public feeling like they pay too much in taxes already and proposed providing the dollar amounts for each improvement in a separate question stating the following:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
STEERING COMMITTEE
CITY OF HUDSON
Monday, February 3, 2020

“Listed below you will find the cost of each improvement. Does this change your prioritization?”

Other possible POLCO questions were reviewed. Yoerg inquired if the Transportation batch of questions could include electric charging vehicles and ramps. Grace said it could. Johnson asked if question 6 of the Batch 5 (Transportation) questions could be revised to say *“Would you support the spending of tax dollars on transportation improvements and the expansion of public transportation options to neighboring communities such as the Twin Cities and Eau Claire?”* Other Batches of POLCO questions were discussed (mainly those referring to parking, which would include a block statement that verifies that money collected in the downtown parking system goes toward a parking fund for downtown infrastructure improvements). Johnson noted that the bike/ped POLCO questions should be shown to the Bike/Ped Advisory Committee for approval before this Committee acts on it.

Engagement activities at this weekend’s Hot Air Affair were discussed. Grace noted that there would be two proposed activities. One where residents can write down one thing they want to change about the community, and one thing they want to keep about the community. The other activity involves a blown up map that will allow residents to place numbered stickers on it and then write down on a corresponding numbered card what they would like to see changed in that location.

Weiss said a volunteer sign up sheet was sent out to Plan Commissioners and Common Council members last Friday. At the time of this meeting, a couple had signed up to volunteer. Grace requested access to the shared spreadsheet for event planning purposes. Weiss mentioned she could send it to Grace at the end of the meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the holding of two focus groups in downtown. Bob Kost of SEH will assist Brea Grace with hosting these events. Staff was advised not to attend so that participants would feel more at ease. Staff was also given direction to determine where the focus groups should take place, noted by Grace that City Hall should be avoided so that the groups take place on ‘neutral ground’. Yoerg mentioned the Marina as a potential meeting location. Staff was advised to look into the Marina and the Chamber of Commerce office for availability.

Discussion on City of Hudson Demographic Data. Due to shortness of time, this item was postponed to the next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS.

Next meeting date was scheduled for Monday, March 2, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Mroz, seconded by Yoerg to adjourn at 2:06 p.m. All Ayes (5). Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Tiffany Weiss, Acting Secretary