

- The Housing initiative has moved forward but what hasn't is the Jobs – that was the number one priority for City Council.
- What happened with that is that there were plenty of jobs at the time, but no people to fill them. With the economy, things are much different now.
- It seems that everything ties back to Economic Development as the major topic. It should be tied to a specific project.
- It is a time for us to look at the big picture.
- Perhaps the need for an outside facilitator would be helpful again. Should Russ Linden be brought back? What would be the structure of the conversation?
- Maybe it should be somebody local. Somebody local may do a little more.
- The big objective here is to get people linked to this. Beyond one meeting or follow up meetings, there's a little more of a process. Sometimes you have to dig a little deeper on these things so that it isn't just surface. Maybe the facilitator could do three or four meetings.
- Should this group itself do a little strategic discussion to update ourselves, things we've done, things we'd like to do, lessons learned. Pat Smith has been used, Paul Fardink has been used.
- The idea of a series, convening people that may not have been convened before together. That could be very helpful.
- The BPU came in and did a presentation for the Joint Funders because that would be the largest capital project the City would ever experience. Stan Lundine came in; the Hospital Health Care is another one and Jim Zadoorian did a presentation to the group, but under that umbrella of that very first topic – Economic Development – and there was Tourism, all those things. Dave Shepherd was even thinking of re-creating the Lyseum Series and who would be the convenor? Possibly it's a joint sponsored event which would be a good way to get community conversation.
- What do you mean by Economic Development?
- Every single person at the table has a different idea of what it is based on what your passions are or whatever. One is our neighborhoods, downtown, hospital.
- Should there be some kind of guiding principles of what impact we want our community to have in the end is how we prioritize projects?
- You also have to keep in mind that we already have prioritized projects. We've obviously put downtown as an important project. The power plant is an important project that could transform our entire discussion and now we've put neighborhoods higher and we have to put healthcare higher;

- People have other ideas and maybe we need to rearrange those top four. We've been taking steps with all of them - all four of them have been moving along.
- Maybe the question is "what are the priorities that have been set?" What are the common themes that have been led to the setting of those priorities because that in and of itself may give birth to the common principle definition. The definition probably already exists. It's been stated in a way...maybe a way to state it within the conscious of the priorities and where do those priorities overlap because when you think about the BPU, we think about healthcare and neighborhood or community. There's a number of inter-related connecting points and maybe a helpful way to go at this is to look at those connecting points because those connecting points kind of benefit all of those priorities. Maybe it's identifying those connecting points and invest collectively in those connection points that could help facilitate the individual projects, define the common themes and the principles. Why do those four emerge to the top? They will generate jobs, generate sustainability, etc. Where do those four things inter-relate with one another so those four or five priorities aren't tripping over one another as they reach for limited resources. An action item is how do we collectively support those four with the understanding that those guided principles are really what we want to make our decisions upon.
- Defining economic development through projects, rather than coming up with an overall definition is better. Everything we're working on is all related so if we basically say these are the projects and our priorities and then we took it a step further and that's how we define our ideas...economic development...it's through our projects and our priorities and the connecting points rather than just an arbitrary definition.
- Is there a general feeling that there's a collective expertise and understanding of where those inter-related points are within the folks that would be around the table because if that's the case then you just need someone who has a skill set to kind of facilitate the expertise that's currently around the table. If the expertise doesn't exist, then you may need someone who has an expertise in helping to coalesce this with a good background and City Economic Development/Planning - who can bring an expertise in and maybe kind of set a framework that will help get the group together.
- The group needs to assess where we think that expertise lies - if it's internal to us, then we need someone who can pull it out. If it's not internal, we need someone to help us identify it and then move it to the next step.
- The gentleman from UB. He'd be excellent. He's a planner and an urban designer. He's a visionary, but he also understands the

practical concepts. It's one thing to come up with strategies and stuff, but there's substance underneath to get that to happen.

- Do we have any money left to hire someone? Some money has been saved. There's also that other fund at the Community Foundation - the Miles Lasser Fund. It was set up for strategic planning.
- We've talked about major projects that we have - BPU, neighborhoods, healthcare, downtown, each of us could write something very cogent about those projects and sort of a vision: the goals, the impact, the outcomes, projects, actions and potential cooperation. A simple framework and a group of projects with actions outlined beforehand and a real discussion with these beforehand that can be gathered together by someone who could probably take those and put those into a format. He's going to need us as connectors. We need to decide who ought to be involved - we need strategic visionaries to put something down on paper to kind of guide and support any discussion.
- Can we tie this into the strategic plan at the County?
- We may not be able to move on a lot of different things, but we should be cognizant of opportunity when it does come and you have to move on things.
- Do you think that we have the expertise around the table to see where those connections are now or are we too into the thick of things to see them or do you think Bob is a good one to look at everything when we give him an outline of everything that we're working on?
- There's enough collective expertise around the table to at least put together a framework that if you put it in the hands of someone who's done community planning and has the skill sets - that individual may be able to help pull out some of those key discussion and connector points. The expertise of helping to frame the issues may be resident within the group and if we could take a step to process that in a way that he could organize it.
- Should we be treating this as a subset of the County Plan?
- The County plan has a lot of ideas and lots of groups that are collectively trying to help, but it was unclear in terms of what is the end game of this other than some broad strategic plan that was taking lots of stuff and putting it into something. There are existing priorities and these priorities have certain tenets to them and those tenets are kind of connecting between others - should we not be focusing and investing and strategizing on how to make those connecting points a reality because they've already been defined as a priority?
- One of the jobs of the County Planning Board is to advise the Executive and Legislature on capital funding projects and the County under both the Thomas administration and the Edwards

administration, made good use of that Board. The problem is that when recommendations are made to the County elected officials, the Planning Board was working off a County Comprehensive Plan from 1970 something. It was extraordinarily old and for ten years there was a need for a new plan. The actual impetus for that County Comprehensive Plan is to guide the County Planning Board so that the County Planning Board could make the right recommendations about capital projects.

- The discussion papers have been posted.
- If we make an assumption, and we can agree or disagree on this – if there’s collective expertise and there’s intellectual capital that exists that we can kind of put together, how can we best put that information together to help Bob help us – if Bob’s the right guy? Because that’s what he’s going to ask as a facilitator – he’s going to say “you need to help me so that I can help you. What are the things that you have to help me in that regard and what do you think the appropriate types of outcomes should be?” He’ll have some insight into those outcomes, but he’s going to need us to help him. So how do we help him help us?
- There’s at least the four things that can be identified that come out of this group that we’ve done a lot of work on. Things have actually physically changed outside in the community. If and when we are successful with the BPU project, we’ve got to prepare for that because that has the ability to overwhelm on such a massive scale – everything that we’ve done that we’re totally unprepared for. The scale of that is monumental in a way that none of us are ever going to see as long as we’re alive in this county. We can be overwhelmed by the good of this project, but also be overwhelmed by the fact that it could take us in directions we haven’t even thought of but as a small community, we’re not prepared for something that big.
- Once you have an action plan, the next strategic question is “what are the things that are going to prevent that action plan or what are the risks points from that thing materializing so maybe perhaps as part of the outcome – how do you help us – is help us connect these dots but also in the process of the connection what happens if we actually get the BPU, what are the risk points and what are the collective groups that we need to make sure that they’re on board so that we don’t have big gaps in the ability to operationalize a terrific opportunity?
- Where is that project now?
- We’re sitting and waiting. Hopefully by the summer we’ll learn something.
- Did they extend the application process or did they basically go with what was submitted?
- They’re going to offer another round, but they haven’t yet.

- Internally at the BPU they're doing everything that they need to do to be ready for it as an organization to make it happen, but then there's the bigger picture about how do we through this group make sure that the City gets the maximum benefits from this project.
- Is there a definition of what the maximum benefits are?
- Investment in the community, good jobs, 3500 jobs here in Western New York, construction jobs, people will need schools, places to live. Lots of people might be coming to Jamestown.
- A small group will get together that actually can put the nuts and bolts together - is that alright?
- What's our targets - what kind of dates that we would like to actually have our first meeting?
- Are we looking at the action teams doing some sort of report?
- That would be a good idea.
- Reach out to Bob and see if there's something that we should be using as a general template without him doing too much work. If he's got something that we may be able to use already, Len and Jim will take a look at it and put it in place as a basis for the meeting. We will use that as a framework so that we can get the action reports in some common framework that is aligned with some method that he may have already used to some success.

Neighborhood Revitalization Plan

- Our goal has been in implementing our overall strategic plan to have a neighborhood design plan. Many meetings have been held since our last meeting with funders and discussions internally and we're talking with the consultant we'd like to hire, Charles Buki Associates. Commitments have been received from the Gebbie, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, the City, Jamestown Savings Bank, the Commission itself. Commitments to date - we're very close to the goal, \$75,000-\$80,000, \$2,000 is needed to reach that goal.
- The Lenna Foundation is meeting today. The City contributed. It's really fantastic-the collaboration from a funding standpoint alone.
- This is not the easiest times to pool funds. The City has done a lot of work. Steve Centi, Bill, Amanda have been involved so many people have been involved in kicking this off. The Bank - Jamestown Savings - even larger contribution than expected. There's been good PR in the paper so that's working. The Post Journal has been very helpful and will continue to be.
- June 1st is the hire date. Charles Buki is ready to go June 1st. We'll need to extend and think through again who's being involved, and how to make the best use of it. If we can get people involved,

committed and understanding and making action commitments – that’s what’s going to drive this. We’ve got the best consultant out there.

- Steve Centi came to the Housing Committee on Monday night to update the committee and also to the full Council. The Council and the Housing Committee are fully behind this.

Healthcare Economic Impact

- Team members are in place and they’ll be calling a meeting in the next week or so.

Urban Design Plan

- The façade program is ongoing downtown.
- Partnering with JRC to do a whole concert series down by the JAMA Building this year. There is ongoing marketing that is up to a national level. Advertising on NPR in 13 cities. Buffalo Business First will be doing stories on what we’re doing here in Jamestown and in the Southern Tier. The initial kickoff will be Friday in our lobby at noon.

BPU Discussion Group

- The next Ward meeting for Ward 3 is May 28th from 7-8:30 at Love School. Michael Taylor will chair the meeting.
- In mid-late June, a scoping meeting will be held.
- The SEQR process will begin – it will be at the Jackson Center, no date has been set. It will be the same format as the Carbon Sequestration Task Force. People will have a chance to go around the exhibits with different issues and ask questions of experts on each topic and then they prepare questions, people submit questions that we will have to study about the project.
- Is that something the BPU will want to partner with the commission on – we did that last time didn’t we?
- You partnered with the State Carbon Sequestration.
- Bill Parment is trying to get legislation regarding where carbon would be sequestered.
- Dave Leathers was asked to speak at Columbia University three weeks ago at the Earth Institute carbon sequestration workshop the whole day.

Jamestown’s Next Gen Leaders

- The name has been changed to Jamestown's Next Gen Leaders. We do have an email address and our face book is out there. Our mission right now is connecting next gen leaders to existing networks, engaging discussions on our common concerns and then we want to focus on leadership skills to better ourselves in the community.
- A press release will go out so new people can get involved. Meetings will be on a regular basis.
- Several of the members have been recommended to serve on boards and committees Joelle Conti, Julie Ellis and Leslie Brown have been placed on the Community Foundation's member list.
- Project Blueprint, we have 18 participants training concludes June 4th and then they will be looking to be placed on various boards in the community.
- The course won't be offered next year - we'll probably take a break, but we'll be offering it again the following year after that. We'll again be looking to recruit young professionals, and we have three high school students going through the program this year which is also great.
- How does that differ from the Chautauqua Leadership Network?
- This is kind of a pre-course training. Someone that's looking to get involved in the community or just looking for board instruction should consider going through Project Blueprint first and then graduate on up to Chautauqua Leadership. This year we haven't been able to, but in the past, the United Way, has collaborated with Chautauqua Leadership to offer scholarships one participant from Project Blueprint to go into Chautauqua Leadership. We definitely want to encourage them for that self-growth and development.
- Maclain worked with Carrie and Chautauqua Works on putting together an internship program - there were nine kids that were placed throughout the downtown and they were paid internships. The Gebbie Foundation funded it.
- The JLDC has a high school girl that's working through the Youth's Apprentice Program. In addition the JLDC is working with Dave Munella's Business Group Class and have given him a number of projects.
- The Youth Apprentice that Vickye James has in her office - coordinated the March Against School Violence and they had their largest attendance this past Saturday. She coordinated everything, ran the meetings - and we're talking about a high school student amongst professionals and she held her own. Discussions have been held with Kim Sutters who is a business teacher at Jamestown High School who runs the Youth Apprenticeship Program. Possibly that can become a requirement or tailor a project blueprint for the high students also. Nothing has been developed yet, but it's still being explored.

Regionalism Task Force

- Follow up with Rex Rater will be done to see where that is going.
- A grant has been applied for.
- Joe Gerace said they're still meeting.

Shared Services

- A Shared Services meeting was held on Monday. Lillian Ney and Len Faulk are convening this group. A session on county wide assessing was held. A real resistance is there to having fair and equitable assessment in a number of townships in the County. Pomfret, for example, is the other municipality county that hasn't done a reassessment for over 30 years or 40 years. Nobody wants to do it in an election year. The county received \$50,000 from the state for assessment study and what we're getting is just totally ignorance of it, even though the assessment study said the county has an unfair, inequitable, unplanned assessment process. Just to give an example of that - Jamestown, that did its assessment and this is the good news - has the 4th best record of all the townships in the county in terms of hitting assessment actually close to sales value.
- Some areas are so far off - Town of Poland's 210% off. Jamestown should feel proud of itself.
- Jamestown bit the bullet and did it, did it right and everything is fine. It also came from this body and so it's something we should be proud of too.
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

James N. Olson
Director of Financial Services/City Clerk