

May 2, 2001

Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission ----

Proceedings by Authority

State of New York,  
City of Jamestown ss.:  
Mayor's Conference Room

A meeting of the Strategic Planning & Partnerships Commission of the City of Jamestown, New York was held on May 2, 2001 at 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Co-Chair Michael Lyons, Vincent Joy, Jr., Miles Lasser, Raymond Fashano, Walter Haase, Brent Sheldon, Cynthia Peterson

Members Absent: Matthew Dimas, Carolyn Seymour, Jeffrey Aiken, Co-Chair Lillian V. Ney, Gregory DeCinque, Betsy Wright

Others Present: City Clerk Shirley A. Sanfilippo, Matthew Hanley, William Rice, Jennifer Harkness

Co-Chair Lyons called the meeting to order.

The Commission reviewed the list of proposed members for the Implementation Task Force for the Jamestown Guarantee to send to the Mayor.

Mr. Joy spoke about keeping the mission statement broad and in general terms.

Mr. Rice stated that they do want to keep a very broad statement to see how things fit in and that they need to go down to different levels.

Mr. Joy stated that he thought that they had already adopted a general mission statement.

Mr. Rice stated that they had. He stated the next thing that needs to be done is to get a cross section of the community to define what those terms mean to them. He stated that the Commission has to include them where they fit in.

Mr. Haase stated action plans, goals, and objections to get reinforcement that they are actually doing the mission statement should be the next step.

Mr. Rice stated that this is not really a plan; it's an overall broad view. The indicators are a statistical evaluation in a broad sense of how decisions are following in, if they are a positive or a negative for the future. A cross section of the community needs to be included.

Co-Chair Lyons stated what the Commission had done to establish the vision statement and wondered how they can measure progress.

Mr. Joy stated that he thinks that the Commission needs to go out into the community and ask certain groups in the community what the statement means to them, instead of the Commission trying to figure out what it means to all these different groups.

Mr. Rice agreed that they need that input.

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Co-Chair Lyons stated that the last time the members met they decided that they were going to send out a letter or statement to different community organizations saying that this vision statement has been accepted. He also stated that they agreed on having one large public meeting.

Mr. Fashano stated that Mark Thomas, County Executive, held meetings all over Chautauqua County for a few hours at a time. He thought that holding public meetings at different locations and different times would allow for anyone who wants to attend, to attend and voice their opinion.

Co-Chair Lyons thought that they should send out the letter to as many as they can.

(Mr. Fashano left at 8:25 a.m.)

Mr. Haase wondered what they are asking the public to comment on.

There was discussion regarding defining the terms and what they mean to others.

Mr. Haase suggested that they put down questions and expected answers. If the statement stays the same they then need to ask how they are going to support the statement.

There was discussion regarding groups having conflicting views or different focuses.

Co-Chair Lyons spoke about having a general statement which attempts to pull things together and sending that out to various groups for their comment.

Mr. Haase spoke regarding the length of time that a process could take.

Mr. Joy said it was already passed by City Council as a general broad vision for the City, which was put together by a good cross section of the community. He thinks that now is the time to get it out to people.

Mr. Rice stated that he thought that a cross section is not represented.

Mr. Sheldon added that the Community Summits that the County had lasted a couple of years.

Mr. Haase stated that Mr. Rice is part of the decision-making process and he needs additional input.

Mr. Rice stated that he would bring the letter and the list to the next meeting.

Mr. Joy said that the legislative body has done the broad statement; now, Mr. Rice needs to get whatever information he needs.

Mr. Sheldon stated that they need the input of the community, the churches, the schools, and the civic clubs...

There was discussion regarding the direction the community wants to take.

Co-Chair Lyons stated that he thought that the statement needs to be "thrown out there" so that the people can give the Commission feedback.

Mr. Sheldon stated that they did the same thing with the Jamestown Guarantee.

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Mr. Haase thought that they should draft a letter and ask both questions in the letter; what is your definition of it and is there any projects that you think would fit into this statement. From there he thought they could go to a third level by asking what future projects would fit into the statement, if they wanted to.

Co-Chair Lyons agreed that they should ask as much as they can. He then asked Mr. Rice if he was going to take on drafting the letter.

Mr. Rice replied yes.

Mr. Haase asked Mr. Rice if he was going to do the letter and the list.

Mr. Rice said yes.

Co-Chair Lyons felt it would be great to establish benchmarks.

Mr. Rice stated that this is a matter of balancing.

Mr. Haase thought they should ask as many groups as possible.

Ms. Peterson felt that it was more important to be more inclusive than exclusive.

Co-Chair Lyons stated that the next meeting will be held on June 6, 2001 at 8:00 a.m.

Mr. Haase advised that he would be absent the July meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Shirley A. Sanfilippo, CMC, RMC  
City Clerk