Philmont Waterfront District

Executive Steering Committee Meeting #11

MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 14, 2015
9:00-11:00 AM
VANDERBILT HOUSE

MEETING CALLED BY: Rob Holzman

ATTENDEES: See attached list

Agenda topics

DISCUSSION | Housekeeping & Updates

- Rob Holzman gave an update to the Committee regarding the August 26 meeting that he and Lisa Nagle had with the Village Board. The intent of the meeting was to outline the planning process and how the Brownfield Opportunity Area program can help the Village move forward with a variety of initiatives. Overall, Rob reported that the meeting went very well and that the Board asked both he and Lisa to come back when we have draft recommendations developed.

- Rob asked if there had been any progress on the development of a model discussed at the previous meeting. Sally Baker stated that she did reach out to Dave Ashton to understand if funds could be moved around to create the model. Tom Paino was not in attendance; there was nothing further to report.

- Discussion was had regarding the workshop series that will be held as a build up to the public Open House for the draft plan. It was agreed that the workshops will take place in late October at Village Hall. Dates and times are to be determined. The three workshops included:
  - Micro-hydro possibilities: Sally has reached out to a small company in Vermont and is waiting to hear back.
  - Historic interpretation: Sally stated the Mathew Kierstad is ready to go and is developing an outline for the presentation.
  - Native plant restoration: Gail Laird was asked to give the presentation but declined because she is too busy right now. However, Gail did offer to help find someone else. Christine Vanderlau will also look into finding a presenter through Columbia Land Conservancy’s contacts.

- Extensive conversation was had regarding the need and importance of Committee members to record ALL of the time that they are putting into this project. It was made clear that these hours are an important part of the “in-kind” hours that are be accounted for as the Village’s local match. It was also discussed that the Village Clerk’s need to keep track of their time as part of the local match. The discussion also include some clarifications regarding the Village Clerk’s office recording and invoice submittals. There appears to be a gap in understanding invoices between the Clerk’s office and that which Sally Baker is submitting. It was agreed that there would be benefit and value for the Clerk’s Office and Sally Baker to meet with the Department of State. Barbara Segal agreed to organize and participate in the meeting. Larry Ostrander (not in attendance at this Committee meeting) will also be invited to attend.

DISCUSSION | Review of Draft Brochure

- Rob Holzman shared a draft of a brochure he developed to share with the Community highlighting progress to date and announcing the workshops. Overall the Committee was pleased with the content. Various changes were revealed as discussion took place on the draft. As a result, the cover page will be changed to look more like the Open House poster developed, some new text was recommended and a few new pictures will added.

- Rob will make edits, then share the draft with the Committee via email.

- Sally Baker will look into printing of the brochure.

DISCUSSION | Wrap Up

- At 11:15 the Committee agreed close the meeting and to carry over Agenda Items 4 to the next meeting.
- Next meeting: 9:00 AM-11:00 AM September 2.
Agenda

9:00 1. Welcome

2. Housekeeping & Updates
   - Summary of August 26 Elan meeting with Village Board
   - Model update
   - Discussion: workshop series status (micro-hydro, historic interpretation, native plant restoration)
   - Committee member updates

3. Review Draft Brochure

4. Identify & Discuss Policy & Project Recommendations:
   - Historic & Cultural Resources
   - Nature & Recreation

5. Tentative meeting dates and locations for Open House

11:00 6. Wrap Up
   - Next meeting: September 21
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<tr>
<td>Rob Holzman</td>
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<td>Christopher Reel</td>
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<td>Sally Baker</td>
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The process welcomes and encourages enthusiasm and collaboration as the foundation for success.
What’s Next?
The Executive Steering Committee is in the process of developing recommended actions for each goal, all in support of the vision. In the Fall of 2015 we expect to meet again with the public in an Open House format, just as we did in February, to share our interpretations of all that we heard from our public outreach and research.

Prior to our Open House we will be sponsoring a series of workshops that will highlight some unique features such as micro-hydro possibilities, historic interpretation and native plant restoration.

So keep your eyes and ears open for an announcement...we need your continued input to help us develop a plan for the future of the Philmont Waterfront District!

Where to Find Us
Keep posted on progress and updates at pbinc.org (look to the left of the screen under Programs and Projects, and you’ll find us).

If you have ideas, please feel free to share them at the PBI blog at http://pbinc.org/community-blogging

“Water does not resist. Water flows. When you plunge your hand into it, all you feel is a caress. Water is not a solid wall, it will not stop you. But water always goes where it wants to go, and nothing in the end can stand against it. Water is patient. Dripping water wears away a stone. Remember that, my child. Remember you are half water. If you can’t go through an obstacle, go around it. Water does.”

- Margaret Atwood

Come & learn more about new opportunities emerging in Philmont from your input...

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<td>Historic Interpretation</td>
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**Draft Vision**

The Philmont Waterfront District is an area of historic innovation that connects natural beauty, diversity and an entrepreneurial spirit. It is a place that fosters collaboration and partnerships for people to pursue healthy and active lives; a place that celebrates history, personal growth, and connection to our land and water resources, all with an eye to the future.

**Draft Goals**

**Historic & Cultural Resources**
- Celebrate and preserve the Waterfront District’s unique role in the founding of Philmont as an innovative and dynamic mill village.
- Preserve, express and enhance the historic spaces and places of the Waterfront District.
- Strengthen existing cultural resources as drivers of social and economic collaboration.

**Nature & Recreation**
- Enhance opportunities to connect the Waterfront District with surrounding natural resources and neighboring communities.
- Manage the waterfront and natural areas to stimulate sustainable economic development and enhance healthy living.
- Prepare for extreme weather events by increasing the resilience of Philmont’s waterfront and landscapes.

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**What is this About?**

The Village of Philmont, in cooperation with Philmont Beautification, Inc. applied for State funding through the Brownfield Opportunity Areas program. In 2012, the Village was awarded a grant to examine the redevelopment potential for the waterfront and vacant mills. The net result of the project will be a strategic plan that will help create jobs, support environmental remediation, revitalize the Village as a whole, and expand the tax base that has been adversely affected by vacant industrial sites.

**Where Are We In the Process?**

Since the Fall of 2014 the Committee and its consultant team, led by Elan Planning & Design, have had twelve meetings, met with dozens of residents and business owners, and held a community-wide Open House. Based on this input, a draft Vision and set of Goals have been crafted. A survey of the Summit Reservoir/Lake has also been completed and a focused economic analysis is helping guide thoughts regarding economic opportunities. Currently we are defining plan recommendations to support the overall vision and goals with the expected completion this winter.

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**Housing & Neighborhood Development**
- Create a Waterfront District that will enhance the existing objectives of the Mill District.
- Create sustainable land use tools to manage housing growth and neighborhood development.
- Invest in neighborhood infrastructure to foster positive social interaction and opportunities for healthy, active living.
- Support efforts to conserve and improve the Village’s historic housing stock.

**Business & Economic Development**
- Recognize, promote and support local production systems, including initiatives for conserving surrounding farmland and natural resources.
- Explore ways to leverage Philmont’s water resources for environmentally sustainable economic development.
- Identify strategies to encourage collaborations and entrepreneurship to support a dynamic local economy with entrepreneurial spirit.
- Promote community revitalization that restores economic vitality while conserving natural and historic resources.
- Create a community-informed revitalization plan centered on the Summit Reservoir area, starting with selected sites including potential brownfields, to stimulate public interest and promote economic development in the Village of Philmont and surrounding areas.

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**We Are Here**

**Research Phase**
- Research demographics
- Understand environment
- Resident and business interviews
- Focus Groups
- Community Open House

**Analysis Phase**
- Summarize themes
- Develop observations
- Discuss plan direction

**Planning Phase**
- Develop Vision
- Develop Goals
- Develop strategies to support vision and goals
- Community review for input and feedback

**Implement & Monitor**
- Establish project teams
- Develop & strengthen partnerships
- Advance projects & strategies