



VISIONEERING
WICHITA

**Visioneering Wichita
Environmental Sustainability Alliance
September 2 2010
Meeting Notes**

Attendees: Brian Meier, Patty Stuever, Lindsey Mahoney, Jack Brown, Kathy Dittmer, Sharon Fearey, Teresa Burk, Michelle Stroot, Dane Baxa, Becky Lewis, Kay Johnson, Suzanne Coin, Tami Bradley, Diane Longfellow

WIRE Grant Update

Jack Brown, UKSM – Wichita, presented an overview of the WIRE (Wichita Initiative to Renew the Environment) Grant. His presentation is available on the Visioneering website:

<http://www.visioneeringwichita.com/minutes/environmental/WIRE%20presentation.pdf>

The grant purpose was to determine local environmental community priorities. Working with WIN, 40 – 50 neighborhood associations were defined as the project focus area. From 52 discussions, which included 1500 participants and 2 public meetings, 19 environmental issues were identified as priority. These 19 issues were then ranked (details at <http://wichita.kumc.edu/care/>). They have applied for the 2nd level of funding. This phase focuses on air quality, Arkansas River and solid waste management

The alliance can assist WIRE by using our resources, networks and working together on overlapping areas. Interested members were invited to become part of the WIRE leadership council. The application form is available at the above listed website.

“Preferred Future”

Dane Baxa led a discussion on “preferred future” statements. Information from previous alliance notes were used to develop the statements. These are broad, vision statements. Below are the revised statements. Built Environment will be addressed at the next alliance meeting. Everyone is encouraged to review and send comments/suggestions to Diane, dlongfellow@wichitachamber.org.

Mission Statement:

To promote the environmental sustainability of the region by facilitating collaboration and integrating solutions among individuals and organizations, and serving as a resource, catalyst and advocate for environmental justice, economic prosperity and social equity.

Preferred Futures:

Transportation:

To create a multimodal system that moves people and goods throughout the region with the most efficient use of economic and environmental resources.

Energy Efficiency:

To maximize energy efficiency and sustain energy supply based on renewable and environmentally sound resources.

Water Quality:

To establish reliable and plentiful water resources that maximize water conservation and assure optimum water quality.

Air Quality:

To assure optimum air quality that has no negative impact on the health of humans, natural ecosystems, and economic development.

Solid Waste:

To reduce, reuse and recycle solid waste.

Planning Process

Brian Meier led a discussion about how to connect our work with others. The alliance needs to identify activities already going on that link to our goals. Once identified, we need to determine how we can collaborate.

Connecting the Plan with Action

There was discussion around how to develop the Alliance. As a starting point, members were asked to identify their contacts who work in the environmental sustainability field and email Diane, dlongfellow@wichitachamber.org, a name, organization and contact information and a brief description of what they are doing. A resource database will be developed. The leadership team will determine how we move forward.

Upcoming Meetings

Energy Conference is January 28th and 29th. Friday is the business day and Saturday is the community day. Kay Johnson stated there is a need for projects. She would like the alliance to be involved in the conference.

Charlie Applegate was not able to attend, however he provided information about www.350.org. On 10/10/10 Bill McKibben is promoting a Global Work Party – “the point is to do something that will help deal with global warming in your city or community.” Charlie encouraged the alliance to come up with a few ideas to launch.

Everyone is encouraged to join VESA-Wichita.groupsie.com. It was noted that Charlie is doing an excellent job keeping update-to-date information on the site.

Leadership Team: September 16, 8:30 a.m., City of Wichita, Council board room

Alliance: October 7, 3:00 p.m., the Chamber

September Agenda:

- Finalize “Preferred Future” and determine next steps to connect Alliance plans, conduct research and launch campaign activities.