



***Visioneering
Racial Diversity, Opportunity & Harmony***

**Meeting Notes
September 27, 2005**

Attendees: Ray Frederick, Sharon Fearey, Lavonta Williams, Peggy Elliott, JoAnne Batiste, Judy Rzeszotarski, Terri Moses, Sheila Wright, Brian Landwehr, Marie Gillespie, Doug Hye, Crystal Gurrola, Carla Brown, Marie Oldfield, Susan Leiker, Ed Bricknell, Vallery Fields, Pam Beavers, Ray Rancuret, Deann Smith, Rich Hanley, Janet Pape, Jackie Stuart, Shea Carpenter, Carlos Contreras, Charles Steiner

Leadership Team: Brian Black, Delia Garcia, Doug Hye, Jamie Lopez, Lavonta Williams, Peggy Elliott

Welcome/Self Introductions: Peggy Elliott of the Leadership Team and Suzie Ahlstrand of the Chamber welcomed participants and allowed time for introductions. Meeting goals/purposes for the day were reiterated:

- Revisit Racial Diversity Alliance benchmark (“attitude survey” & “income gap,” pg. #7)
- Discuss timeline for dissemination, scoring of and reporting on the “attitude survey” [Oct ’05-Jan ’06]
- Brainstorm ways to publicize and encourage completion of upcoming survey
- Update on ‘Unified Legislative Strategic Alliance’
- Discuss ‘Legislative Issue Submission Instructions’
- Provide sample Legislative Proposal
- Discuss ‘scoring matrix’ for all legislative proposals
- Invitation to attend future ‘Unified Legislative Strategic Alliance’ meetings on October 6 & 21
- Development of ‘Mission Statement’
- Create next steps for the Racial Diversity Alliance

Suzie Ahlstrand sought and received approval for the minutes from the **August 30th** Alliance Meeting. Suzie provided information on the **Be A Partner – Vision Partner Blitz** planned for September 29, 7:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. She invited Alliance members who have not signed on as Vision Partners and to encourage others who have not already signed on to participate and become Vision Partners.

Suzie then discussed preliminary plans for the community-wide survey, which have not been finalized. Suzie is working with the Benchmark Team and other community partners to explore the possibilities available to gather applicable information. In a recent conversation with Henry Luke, he clarified that the survey should not be promoted as a “racism” survey, but rather as a community perception of “diversity and harmony” survey.

Barry Carroll and Maaskelah Thomas, Self-Help Network, reviewed Racial Diversity, Opportunities and Harmony Key Benchmarks and led participants through a process of clarifying the Alliance’s mission. Based on the Quality of Life Foundation Vision and the Key Benchmark, the group came up with the following as a mission statement:

“To create a culture that promotes and celebrates racial diversity, opportunity and harmony within the Wichita MSA.”

Suzie again expressed desire for an overarching commitment to racial diversity, opportunities and harmony evidenced in the work of each of the Alliances. Based on that commitment and the groups expressed mission, the group developed the following “Next Steps” and timeline for the Alliance:

Next Steps:

- Survey → complete → analyze → disseminating data
- Develop speakers bureau
 - Develop talking points
- Research current diversity initiatives (locally)
 - Possible sources (and individuals who committed to some preliminary research of activities)
 - Society of Human Resources Managers (Peggy Elliott)
 - USD 259 (Lavonta Williams)
 - Non-profit Chamber (Deann Smith)
 - Faith Community (Rich Hanley)

Timeline:

- October – survey goes out
- November – Response
 - Analysis
- December – report and review with Alliance
- January – Report findings to public

Meeting adjourned.

Next alliance Meeting/TBA