

# imagine **Columbia's** future!

---

## **Governance and Decision Making**

### **Meeting Minutes**

4/18/2007

West Junior High School 401 Clinkscates Road

Co-Facilitators: Tim Klocko, Jo Sapp

Support Staff: Marilyn Starke

Attendance: Peg Miller, Larry Schuster, Larry Grossmann, John Clark, Tim Klocko, Doug Simmons, Kelly Jo Woodson, Ron Tooley, David Webber, John Schultz, Khesha Duncan, Ron Tooley, Alyce Turner.

*Absent:* Elizabeth Holden, Marlon Jordan, Elaine Blodgett, Nancy Harter, Alyce Turner, Mahree Skala, Tina Bernskoetter, James Robnett, Jon Dudley, Tracy Greever-Rice, Elizabeth Kerry, Trisha Lee, Maria Oropallo, Bruce Wallace

*Next meeting:* May 16, 2007

Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

Corrections offered and accepted; minutes approved.

### **I. Key Meeting Discussion Topics**

Tonight's objective is to review comments from Big Meeting of 4/4/07 and determine if we want to revise any of the goals or strategies.

The group discussed what it meant that governance was so far down on the list. Some felt it meant government is working well so people had little response about our topic. JC felt it didn't mean that at all, that it was difficult to know what it meant; maybe it meant that the goals we established were not of interest to the masses.

The group decided to work together because of the smaller attendance. The comments from the big meeting were read out loud to see if there were any common themes.

Comments:

KD: It seems the system is a set of roadblocks to prevent individuals from providing input.

LS: The very system that is seen by some as a roadblock was "created" to allow access to the council. In the past, there was no mechanism for input but that very system is now seen for what it was meant to prevent.

Citizen Involvement Goal

There is too much emphasis in the goal statement on neighborhood associations, boards and commissions.

The important elements of the current goal are hearing the people and better representation.

People need to be heard and have access to council people. This leads to the paid council concept.

Personal Interaction is critical.

Suggested Revised Goal: ***Increase City Council/Citizen Interaction***

New Goal was moved and seconded, voted on: yes –9, no - 1

Responsiveness Goal Comments were read, there were only two comments.

The group discussed that responsiveness and citizen involvement are basically the same thing and when the group first started the group wanted these goals combined but the leaders wanted us to have three goals so they were split out. The group felt the strategies could be combined.

The group then discussed combining all three goals into one:

***New Goal: Governance The city government shall adopt a transparent structure that is responsive, accountable, inclusive, equitable and effective, resulting in increased citizen confidence.***

The group then discussed their opinion that the whole process is being rushed and should be extended. We need to spend more time developing the strategies. We basically have 20 minutes to develop the strategies and that is not adequate.

## **II. Motions and Votes**

*(Summarize any motions and state the vote outcome)*

New Goal was moved and seconded, voted on: yes –9, no - 1

**The city government shall adopt a transparent structure that is responsive, accountable, inclusive, equitable and effective, resulting in increased citizen confidence.**

## **III. Actions to be Taken**

We have nine strategies and they need to be reviewed and revised.

Tim will email the new goal to the group and ask the group to send him two or three strategies for the new goal and he will then combine the strategies and redistribute the strategies to everyone before the interim meeting.

Interim meeting is scheduled for May 2, 2007 at 6pm

Jo asked the group to review the other group's strategies/goals to see if there is overlap and to see if we need to meet with the other groups.

Respectfully submitted: *Marilyn Starke*