

Economic Development Sub-Committee

TIME/DATE: Thursday, July 14, 4:00pm

IN ATTENDANCE: Tony Goe, Lynda Skujins, Pete Koson, Anna Trentadue, Hyrum Johnson, John Bingham, Wayne Maness, Brian Gibson

DISCUSSION:

Review of vision statement. Consultant team developed the statement from our committee's top issues, opportunities. There are questions on the use of "sustainable" and "local" in the vision statement. This prompts discussion of alternative meanings and implications behind these words. The committee does not want their words to be misinterpreted. Then, the discussion moved towards a review of the guiding principles, benefits, and opportunities and the words within each statement that need to be changed or edited. The committee does not want these statements to be redundant, overly verbose, flowery, or open to misinterpretation.

These are the statements we have chosen:

"Establish a vibrant, diverse, and stable Teton Valley economy"

Guiding Principles

- Encourage, promote, and support valley businesses
- Incentivize local commerce
- Create a hospitable and attractive environment for businesses and visitors
- Preserve and enhance our natural resources
- Promote businesses that are economically and environmentally friendly
- Ensure stewardship and accountability
- Achieve economic diversity

Benefits

- Provides long-term economic stability (minimizes boom/bust cycles)
- Provides gainful employment
- Provides independence
- Develops community identity
- Keeps money in the valley
- Preserves valley aesthetics

Opportunities

- Brand and market Teton Valley
- Promote smart growth strategies
- Attract appropriate businesses

- Improve infrastructure
- Improve education opportunities to support economic development, including post-secondary education
- Embrace our cultural diversity and heritage

Now we looked at the map and identified areas for several different economic opportunities.

Then the discussion turns to housing. Where does it fit into this discussion? We need housing to attract visitors. Where would vacation housing be appropriate? We do need data to figure out where visitors want to stay, what their spending habits are, the seasons they visit, etc. There is a need for high density housing and time shares for the money spending crowd.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, August 4th at 10am