

Community: Stuart

Minutes by Trees Forever Field Coordinator: Leslie Berckes

Date and Time: May 11, 2016; 5:30pm

Meeting Length: 1.25 hrs

Location: The Depot

Pre-Goal Setting

Number of committee members in attendance: 5

Visioning Committee Members Attending: Kristen Renslow, Terri Hommer, Lynsi Pasutti, Matt Funk, Erin Hunsaker; Leslie Berckes (Trees Forever)

Summary:

The pre-goal setting meeting in Stuart started out with an introduction of Amber Gable and Casey Byers of Bolton and Menk. Amber and Casey are the landscape architects who will work with Stuart throughout the design process. Both Amber and Casey will attend each Stuart Visioning meeting until the committee reaches implementation planning.

The committee next discussed the Transportation Assets and Barriers workshop that was held on April 2 and if there was any community feedback. Committee members did not hear much feedback from the general public, but the people who attended the focus groups had very positive things to say about the experience and valued having their input heard.

Most of the meeting was devoted to reviewing the public input and assessment boards created by Iowa State. Multiple boards were created that breakout the data collected on April 2 into the different demographic categories: seniors, active recreation users, youth, and parents. Information from the steering committee was also included. Steering committee members took time to look at the boards with quotes from the day, barriers identified, desired improvements, and main transportation routes. A few of the boards are included below. After reviewing, the committee got back together to discuss things that surprised them or that they learned. Committee members were surprised by the number of people who wanted trail connections to other towns and the major trail systems and residents who wanted a perimeter trail around town. Committee members also saw that community members are concerned about letting kids cross the highway (or White Pole Rd.). The committee knew that this is an issue in town, but were able to see that many residents also had this concern. The committee also took time to compare the idea list they had generated for potential projects to the assessment information. Project ideas that align with the information seen during the meeting include a safe route for kids to get to school and more recreational opportunities especially related to trails. Leslie will send out the PDF's so committee members can spend more time looking. Leslie is also going to see about getting a few of the boards to the committee so they can be hung up in the library.

Finally, the committee talked about the next steps in the meeting process. In June, the committee will hold its Transportation meeting where representatives from the DOT, county engineer, county conservation, and the city will be present to layout any concerns related to transportation or planned changes to the transportation system. Leslie will invite the DOT and Adair and Guthrie county representatives. The committee will also hold its Goal Setting meeting on the same day as the transportation meeting.