

Meeting Notes:

Martinsville Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee

Date / Time: Thursday, July 29, 2008 @ 6:00 PM

Location: Martinsville City Hall

Attendees: Ross Holloway Scott Burgins, EGT
Pam Badger Erin Shane, EGT
David Roth, EGT

Scott Burgins read through the agenda and the team introduced themselves. Due to the lack of attendance, Scott mentioned that the committee should have additional members to ensure that there is attendance at future meetings. EGT will call and email members for the next meeting, ask the Mayor for additional names and Ross will provide David Trout's email address.

Scott defined what is a comprehensive plan us and noted that the committee will have to define what it wants to fix or save in the community. The committee's biggest concern about this process is that the city does not have city staff to implement a new comprehensive plan, and that it may not have an impact. The community does not really use the existing comprehensive plan now.

The committee agreed that the city needs a comprehensive plan for industrial development, to guide sewer and water extensions, downtown revitalization, property maintenance and pride in home ownership. The committee noted that Martinsville has a large number of rental units in the city and that some residential areas are not maintained to an adequate standard.

Erin Shane provided a summary of the demographics and the big tent event.

The committee then conducted a mapping exercise, where they identified issues and concerns in the city. Items discussed included:

- Get land west of town out of floodplain
- Creating an annexation program
- Analysis of Interchanges and overpasses
- Need to create corridor to downtown – difficult to get downtown now from highways
- Identification of existing parks
- No greenways in the city
- Sidewalks are bad in some areas of town

- The city has no defined neighborhoods, other than Shireman Estates and Park Avenue and they have no neighborhood organizations
- Demolish derelict homes
- I-69 and access to hospital
- Gateways to city

Ross noted that the City was involved in a large county group currently working with FEMA to discuss flooding issues and emergency response.

After the mapping exercise, Scott noted the agenda for the remainder of the project. He noted that since attendance was low for this first committee meeting, we should have another committee meeting before we have a visioning workshop, to gather additional information from the group.

The next meeting for the Martinsville Steering Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, **September 2nd** at 6:00 PM in the City Hall council chambers.