

Notes of the Comprehensive Plan Meeting held Monday, January 11, 2010 at
6:30 p.m. at Lava City Hall, 115 West Elm, Lava Hot Springs, Idaho

Present: Susan Lorenz (SICOG), Rita Anderson, Mark Lowe, Randy Benglan, Mike Vice,
Cathy Sher, Vicky Lyon, and Trish Avery

Guests: Steve Jones and Pam Slaughter

WELCOME The meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m.

Instructions Susan asked that each of the committee members write down three (3) items that needed to be included or changed in the plan as Mark presented the Vision of the Comprehensive Plan which he had prepared.

Vision for the Comp Plan: Mark

Mark clarified that the plan which he had written was a “straw man” plan because it was to be thrown on the table and pulled apart while creating the final plan. The Comprehensive Plan Straw Man was then presented as follows: (you can assess a copy of the “Comprehensive Plan Straw Man 2010” and follow the progress from straw man, to draft, to final plan by assessing the city website at www.lavahot springscity.com and following the Comprehensive Plan Draft link.)

The committee thanked Mark for his work of this project then shared comments and ideas.

Share Comments and Ideas

Comments and ideas were shared by the committee:

- We are slowly losing the “Hometown Feeling”. We need to retain the Hometown and not a Ghost town.
- There is a need to involve the community in commenting on issues. Possibly hold quarterly or semiannual community meetings.
- Plan how the city will grow
- Retain community residents
- Improve communication on current issues; News letter on what is happening, decisions, what’s coming up
- The school, senior center and churches are the hubs of the community
- Improve on assets we have so that families want to use them; parks, basketball and tennis courts (not good to play on asphalt), baseball diamond, etc.
- The city should work with land owners to establish hiking trails for public use which the city would help to maintain through the 1% tourism fund.
- Encourage high density development to allow for open space to be incorporated
- Develop more of the river for fishing up stream, etc.
- Deer feeding stations could bring tourist to town to watch the deer
- The committee needs to be specific in naming action items
- Offer incentives to develop and improve properties
- Attract and retain younger families

- McCammon has purchased land on the foothills to the east of their city for future use. Should Lava do the same?
- Business development incubator
- Market Lava as a great place to live, a bedroom community for those working in Pocatello and Soda Springs
- Develop a walking/bike trail
- Develop the parkable areas behind and to the side of businesses
- Encourage parking in the parking areas that are available
- Multi-level parking
- Develop the vacant lots and building long Main Street into additional commercial venues

What Next? The committee discussed where to go from here. It was decided that we may need more information in the area of “Transportation”. The themes of “Business Development & Recreational Opportunities” and “Employment” may be better used by including them in other themes (chapters).

Next meeting: The next meeting of the comprehensive plan committee will be held Monday, February 1, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.