

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERHSIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION 1 OF 3

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017

7:00 PM

Present at the meeting: Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Dr. Carolyn Prince, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Mr. Verd Odom, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Anthony Woods; Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator; Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, Ms. Lynn McQueen, Herald-Advocate, and Ms. Patricia Bundy, Clerk to Council.

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, opened the strategic planning session and stated that he appreciated everyone staying for this meeting. He stated that everyone has a voice and that no one council member controls. He stated that the purpose of these strategic planning sessions was to have a plan in place that would carry over between Chairs and council elections for the next three to five years.

Chairman Steen recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, and Mr. Munnerlyn began his remarks by sharing a Power Point presentation, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Mr. Munnerlyn brought out seven factors that were key to our quality of life: Health, Environment, Personal Financial Well-being; Public Safety; Education; Recreation and Amenities, and Transportation and Infrastructure. He invited members of Council to name what issues in these areas that our community face. The responses were as follows:

HEALTH

- No hospital or substitute (Emergency Facility)
- Preventative Medicine and Nutrition
- Elder Care/Rehab Services
- Misinformation (fear loss of benefits, understanding visual)
- Day Care
- High rates of Disease for all age groups
- Mental Health
- Drug Abuse

ENVIRONMENT

- Litter problem
- Derelict Housing
- Drainage Problems
- Solid Waste Collection
- Sewer
- Abandoned Industrial building sites

- Appearance/image to include dress and noise of citizens and employees
- Drug Abuse

PERSONAL FINANCIAL WELL-BEING

- Poverty level
- Decline in Industry – jobs
- Loss of Population (Seniors/grandparents and young people)
- Welfare Money vs. Work Money
- Homeless
- Difficult Family Dynamics
- Drugs

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Lack of Highway Patrol officer
- Limited Police in Clio
- Limited Deputies in County
- Cooperation Between Agencies
- Fire Service (volunteer and aging firefighters)
- City 5 mile contract
- EMS Adoption to No Hospital

EDUCATION

- Vocational K-12 Education
- Issues K-12
- Lack of School Support (staff and agencies)
- Vocational Training
- Work Skills
- Prioritization of Resource

RECREATION AND AMENITIES

- Field Sport Focus
- Fast Food
- Higher End Night Time Rest
- Blue Laws
- No Adult or Seniors
- Condition of Lake Wallace

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Personal Transportation
- Public Transportation
- Sewer – Rural

- Public Water in Northwest area of County
- Internet – slow or unavailable
- Cell phone coverage
- Airport
- County Railroad

Mr. Munnerlyn thanked everyone for their participation. He asked members of Council to be thinking about the issues discussed and to think about the following questions:

- Which issues discussed are “required”?
- Which issues are “desired”?
- What resources existed in our community that could address these issues?
- What issues should County Council focus our resources?

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that answers to these questions would be discussed further at the next strategic planning session which would take place after the regular meeting on Tuesday, November 14th.

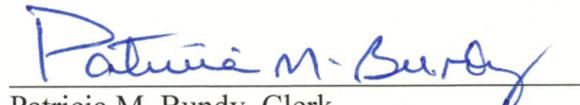
The Strategic Planning Session ended at 8:15 p.m.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Jason K. Steen, Chairman
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: November 14, 2017