

Futures Planning Team – Project Coordinating Team Meeting
8:00 am, December 20, 2007
Black Hawk County Courthouse, Room 410

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Facilitators LaDene Bowen, Don Chaplain and Bill Wood of the Institute for Decision Making (IDM), UNI; citizen member Floyd Winter, County IT Director Kim Veeder, County Supervisor Frank Magsamen, County Auditor Grant Veeder

The Coordinating Team of the Black Hawk County Futures Planning Team met to discuss past and future meetings. Winter said that the Futures Forums held on November 27 and 30 were terrific, that they collected more in-depth information from presenters than similar projects he had experienced. He said that many of the presenters told him that it was a worthwhile exercise for them to condense their visions of the future into a ten-minute presentation. The team felt that more information would probably be needed in the telecommunications area. Magsamen said that State Representative Doris Kelley would be happy to present information. K. Veeder said that here as elsewhere it is important to keep in touch with state initiatives so that the county doesn't duplicate its efforts. Magsamen said he would make efforts to get more African-Americans involved. Winter thought more youth participation was needed. The team discussed seeing if college students could get credit for involvement in the project, and initiating class discussions and surveys for high school student input.

Bowen said that Desired Future Sessions were scheduled for January 17 and February 20, 2008, from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. Plans involved small group discussions between team members and department heads. K. Veeder and Winter said they thought it would be more profitable for everyone to hear from the department heads prior to the small group meetings, in order to be aware of the interconnectedness of various departments. A concern was raised that this would be following a concentrated diet of fact-filled presentations with more of the same, and that an interval of discussion may be desirable to keep the team members sharp. It was determined that presentations and interaction could be incorporated into both meetings, but that more meetings would likely be necessary as a result.

Wood said that the department heads should watch the video of Rick Smyre's presentation and read the four-page summary of same, and prepare a handout addressing what their departments do, what challenges they face, and what they see the future bringing. He said futures team members should review their materials, identify noteworthy anticipated impacts on county government, and tell three people what they think the future could be like for same, which should help them order their thoughts so they will more clearly understand what they think themselves.

The list of county departments was reviewed to determine which departments should be considered together. Central Point of Coordination, Community Services, and Country View were considered one entity by virtue of their reporting to one department head, and

the Auditor's Office and Elections were joined for similar reasons. The departments were scheduled as follows:

January 17: Auditor/Elections, Recorder, Assessor, Treasurer, Planning and Zoning, Engineer, Conservation, Building Maintenance.

February 20: CPC/Community Services/Country View, Emergency Management, Sheriff, Health, Youth Shelter, Attorney, Veterans Affairs, Information Technology, Human Resources.

Magsamen asked for instructions to provide to team members. Chaplain said IDM would provide them, and they would include an inquiry into which area the team members would like to be involved with. He said IDM would provide the facilitators for the small group discussions. Magsamen said he thought the Desired Future Sessions could be held in the Waterloo Center for the Arts, probably in the same room.

The next Coordinating Team meeting was scheduled for 8:00 am on February 15.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 am.