

## **Eureka Township Envisioning Committee Minutes from 7/25/01**

Bev Topp called the meeting to order. Present were committee members Jody Arman-Jones, Mike Greco, Ray Kaufenberg, Kenny Miller, Amy Nielsen, Bob Papke, Pat Steege, Jerry Swedin, Bev Topp, Randy Wood; and observers Connie Anderson, Chris Nielsen, and Clark Smith.

Bev reported that the township supervisors will not conduct interviews to choose members for the committee because nine people expressed interest, and 1000 Friends suggested a committee of no more than ten. Those individuals present will serve on the committee.

**1. Introductions.** Each member told the group about their background, their reason for wanting to be on the committee, and their goals with respect to the committee.

**2. Selection of Chair.** Volunteers were called for to serve as chair. Bob nominated Mike, Bev seconded, and Mike was elected chair.

**3. Selection of Recorder.** Volunteers were called for to serve as recorder. Amy volunteered, and she was elected recorder.

**4. Process.** Members discussed the following processes and procedures for the committee:

- give everyone the opportunity to express their opinion (size of group could make this difficult)
- cap membership on committee at ten members present (members agreed)
- make all meetings open to public
- break into smaller groups to allow everyone to participate
- have clear agenda for each meeting. The chair will reserve time at end of each meeting to discuss next meeting's agenda, and will distribute agenda via e-mail a few days before each meeting.
- options were discussed for handling visitors: (1) ask visitors who want to speak to submit to chair their names and topic they want to address, and reserve 15 minutes for this purpose at the end of each meeting; (2) schedule meetings specifically designated for public input; and (3) leave the matter to the chair's discretion.
- form subcommittees to investigate issues relevant to envisioning; have them report back to group.
- invite speakers to address important issues or present viewpoints not represented on committee (for example, a developer, a Met Council member, etc.).
- read or distribute procedures for public participation at beginning of each meeting
- the committee is an "idea group," not a policy making group
- our mission is to envision what the future of Eureka Township might look like, not to create a "plan"

- meetings designated for public input should be announced in township newsletter, and be held soon after the announcement. The next newsletter is due out in September.
- Mike will post meeting announcements on township bulletin board
- be courteous to others by not cutting them off when they're speaking. If this occurs, Mike will intervene to remind people to let others finish.
- periodically set aside meeting time to assess/reevaluate group's procedures, progress, and direction
- duration of study may be shortened somewhat. Matt Mega will address this when he meets with us. Committee needs to schedule a time to meet with Matt.
- meetings will last from 7-9 pm
- should discuss a budget for supplies with the township board

**5. Meeting Place and Time.** No day always works for everyone, so committee agreed to schedule each meeting individually. The next meeting is August 2 at 7 pm at the town hall. Other meeting places were discussed (Mt. Olivet, Dakota County Extension Office, local highschools, the Lakeville Cultural Center), but town hall is most convenient for everyone.

#### **6. Possible Agenda Items for Next Meeting:**

- How to work with visitors/observers
- What product will we present to the board (put off until after we meet with Matt Mega)
- Discuss common goals or vision, draft a mission or vision statement. The motion by the Eureka Township Board to create the committee reads:

Eureka Township will empower the [community study] task force to cooperate and work with 1000 Friends of Minnesota and Dakota County in studying various growth scenarios, and their impact on the township. The committee will be empowered to make a recommendation to the board to leave the study, if they have any cause for concerns. The Board requests maximum anonymity and requests notification of public data publication.

- Create a list of issues to study that affect envisioning the future of Eureka (e.g., culture, environment, boundaries like MUSA, existing state and local rules and regulations, experiences of other townships, history of Eureka, etc.)
- Create a list of resources available to the committee (e.g., Don Pflaum who is a rep on the Dan Patch Corridor committee, Wisconsin activist who opposed WalMart, plans for highway/road reconstruction, light-rail, the Met Council, University of Minnesota resources, etc.)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.