



Town of Hilton Head Island
Our Plan Regional Work Group Meeting

Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 10:00 am
University of South Carolina – Bluffton Campus

MEETING NOTES

Work Group:

Expanding to Embrace an Integrated Regional Focus

Present from Work Group: Jen Bonnett, Rob Merchant, Meredith Burns, Charlie Stone, Terry Herron, Jocelyn Staigar, Denise Grabowski, Charles Wohl, Carol Crutchfield

Present from Town Council: None

Present from Town Staff: Jayme Lopko, Taylor Ladd, Jennifer Ray

- The meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM.
- Carol Crutchfield and Terry Herron volunteered to serve as Co-Captains to brief the Development Team at their Monday July 15, 2019.
- Jayme Lopko passed the results of the photo activity from the last meeting for discussion since many members were unable to participate. The Group discussed new ideas to add to the results as well as clarified other ideas.
- Jayme Lopko introduced the Expanding to Embrace an Integrated Regional Focus Attribute Activity. This activity is another process for gathering inputs to assist in drafting the strategies and tactics for Our Plan.
- Group members filled out the Attribute Worksheet by identifying attributes for each theme that resulted from the photo activity at the previous meeting. Group members then discussed their attribute ideas.
- The results of the attribute discussion for the themes covered include:

Communication

- a. Communication between City, County, & States government
- b. Proactive not reactive communication
- c. Emergency pre-planning communication across jurisdictions
- d. Look at best practices from other areas
- e. Better infrastructure (i.e. fiber cable and 5G)
- f. Be a leader in connectivity
- g. Storytelling – share stories about our area
- h. Adopt Regional Outreach as everyday activity in planning

Housing

- Affordable housing – model solutions from other areas (incentivize)
- Affordable housing with quality – stigma related to this type of housing
- Identify who need affordable housing
- Identify what employers can do to help
- Recognize the regional need and that is may not be met on the island
- Repurpose commercial for housing – look into zoning to allow this
- Address living wage concerns
- Equitable options for all income levels
- Housing options for again population

Economic Development

- Partner with developers to repurpose properties
 - Support Savannah Economic Development Authority and Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation
 - Encourage eco-tourism businesses
 - Provide economic incentives to bring specific businesses to the area
 - Industrial capacity of Hilton Head Island underestimated
 - Embrace our regional identity
 - Target sectors that blend well with our community
 - Focus on unique qualities from each jurisdiction to contribute regionally
 - Address living wage concerns
 - Work in partnership with surrounding jurisdictions to keep projects in the region
 - Partner with neighboring Counties to identify and market our collective strengths
 - Cultural and heritage tourism
- There was not sufficient time to discuss all the themes. The remaining themes will be discussed at a future meeting. Jayme Lopko passed out the SOAR analysis activity that will be conducted at the next meeting.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Submitted by: Jayme Lopko