



Steering Committee Meeting #1

March 12, 2020 at Newport City Hall (6-8pm)

Meeting Notes

Committee Members - Introductions

Matt Elberfeld	Campbell County Administrator
Tony Mirachi	retired veterans, disabled
Tom Guidugli	past mayor, now works on affordable housing
Joe Doxsey	commercial real estate, economic development
Justin Otto	manager of Newport on the Levee
Sandy Schweitzer	Sis's Restaurant owner
Willis Gregory	school board, Planning Commission (PC), 58 years
Dean Gosney	engineer has business in Newport
Neal Conner	PC board, 25 years on PC
Mark Ramler	East Row 12 yrs, developer/business owner, Newport Business Assoc (NBA) president
Joe Klare	8 years in Newport, PC, NBA board
Mike Radwanski	GE Aviation. East Row historic board.
Angela Siddall	East Row resident, ~30 years. ReNewport, ED board, East Row board
Don Spaulding	Newport Parks Renaissance
Bev Holiday	NBA Vice President, Newport Community Liaison Coordinator
Sandra Eismann-Harpen	Newport Parks Renaissance
Steve Mathisen	graphic/website design business owner, west side resident.
Rosemary Williams	7.5 years, West Side Citizens Coalition
Mike Smith	business owner and resident, NBA Board, ReNewport Board
Ken Lewis	New Riff Distillery, started Party Source

Project Team:

Larisa Sims	Newport Assistant City Manager
CT Consultants:	Kristin Hopkins, Frank Twehues, Shawn Riggs, Danielle Steinhauser
Human Nature:	Sara DiLandro, Keyu Yan

Assets Discussion (What is Missing?)

- People involvement, volunteering, engaged community
- Ease of doing business in Newport, responsive government with can-do attitude
- Business enabling
- Vacant lots available for community spaces, including pockets parks for residents

Key Topics (What is Missing?)

- Transportation and Parking
 - East/West corridors? 6th and 9th Streets? But Monmouth / York disrupt the flow. Ample street widths. Potentially better to not have a true east/west corridor
 - US-27 to Southgate - another corridor that has potential.
 - Future of transportation will change.
 - Congestion on major corridors: I-471, Monmouth, US-27 grid lock during rush hour, need to look at timing of lights. Free flowing Route 9 as designed with roundabouts.
 - Revisit design of Monmouth St.
 - Focus on bringing people *to* the community rather than *through* the community
 - Understand traffic and connectivity trends: biking, 'share economy' like Uber/Lyft.
 - Increase walkability/bikeability to connect neighborhoods.
 - South Newport - lack of walkability, connectivity
 - Parking issues: Current zoning code (1960s) parking requirements do not reflect current or predicted future needs.



- Housing/Neighborhoods
 - West Side redevelopment concerns: Loss of housing stock leading to troubling neighborhood dynamics: loss of population, landowners boarding up properties, African American residents feel neglected by City officials, still feel racism and prejudice, and have not been participating
 - Concern intent is to remove individuals of low / mod income, reduce the diversity of household income? Senior citizens cannot afford some of the new housing. Involve west side of Newport
 - High percentage of renters (apartments), when ready to buy, often choose to buy homes in Newport, see them as future investors
 - Clifton area –should work better with developers / redevelopers to improve lighting (safety and quality of life)
 - LED lights too bright near residential homes (light pollution)
 - Address inhibitors like slumlords / other bad property owners. Need to keep people doing the right things, not reinforce bad

- Family needs:
 - Education deficiencies
 - Child care and activities for children/families

- Meaningful Connections – Sense of Community:
 - Music / entertainment, Neighborhood events, not necessarily free, but make a place neighbors can see each other
 - Need communication / more connections between neighborhoods. View Newport as a community as a whole, celebrate them all together.
 - Need to “blur the lines” between neighborhoods, socialize more and work collaboratively.
 - Continue National Register listings, provide redevelopment incentives to make sure buildings remain.

- Rivers:
 - River health, both Ohio and Licking Rivers
 - River provides recreational opportunities

- Economic Development and Prosperity
 - Too few jobs/industry in Newport, need support system to fuel more job creation
 - Too much retail space given online shopping trend. Need to analyze how much is needed, available
 - Capitalize on neighborhood retail

- Good Government - Collaboration:
 - Working together as a whole
 - Good government in Newport / Campbell County
 - Lack of marketing on City’s behalf

Public Comments

- Grew up in a similar community, the government here is much more collaborative.
- Education, work force development. Health services.
- ReNewport has survey data to provide and follow up.
- Include metrics to measure what success looks like

Next Meeting: April 2 6-8PM