

STEVENS COUNTY RURAL LIBRARY DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Special Planning Meeting
March 6, 2015
Chewelah City Hall
301 E. Clay, Chewelah, WA 99109

The Strategic Planning meeting of the Stevens County Rural Library District Board of Trustees and Library Managers was called to order at 12:06 p.m. by Rick Moore, Chair. In attendance were Rick Moore, Chair; Adena Sabins, Vice Chair; Linda Shaw, Trustee and JD Meacham, Trustee. Amanda Six, District Director; Teah Chadderdon, Manager; Brooke Golden, Manager; Krista Ohrtman, Manager; Sarah English, Manager; Jessica Varang, Community & Technology Coordinator; Janet Eide, Business Manager and Rebecca Moore, Administrative Assistant were also present. Catharine Whitby, Trustee, was absent from the meeting.

VISITORS – None

GREETINGS – Rick welcomed everyone and thanked the managers for joining the Board for this meeting. Everyone wished Rick a Happy Birthday and JD reviewed everyone’s names via song.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

AGENDA CHANGES – None

ACTION ITEMS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (1) **Strategic Planning:** Prior to the meeting, the Managers and Board reviewed the strategic plans and goals for various community agencies and organizations. They also reviewed various community demographic reports and statistics. The purpose of this meeting was to share ideas gleaned from the information gathered from the local community agencies and organizations: common themes, interesting ideas, etc. The Board and managers reviewed the information and the community demographics.
 - JD explained what he believes makes a good Strategic Plan. Vision is fulfilled by policies, Mission is fulfilled by procedures and both of these things lead to Action Items. Vision is where you dream big; where you really think about what your organization could be. However, he stressed that your organization has to be financially stable to make it all work. You have to be flexible. He believes we have a beautiful Mission Statement.
 - Amanda liked the idea of calling it “Strategic Intent” which is how the Colville School Board refers to their Strategic Plan. The word “intent” implies that the actual work being done on the ground can be flexible enough to accommodate changes. A “plan” sounds more rigid. She reminded everyone of the Strategic Planning timeline, and that the District aims to have the new Strategic Plan completed before the budgeting process starts this summer.
 - The big question is: “How can we be relevant to more people?” Rick noted that he thinks the library is not as relevant to middle class people in the community as it used to be. Other comments: the library isn’t used for traditional services as much anymore. Do we need to become more relevant to them or realize that that is not our goal? This is where programming could come into play.
 - Quality of life & community pride for the citizens of Stevens County does not mean the same thing to all.

- Common Themes: Partnerships – Communication, Inclusiveness
Transparency
Education/Training – Increase high school graduation rates, retention high school/college
Economic Development – Workforce development, tourism, stability & security
Access – both geographic and infrastructure, broadband
Quality of life
Organizational viability
- Some things that jumped out: Correlation with Appalachia
The Spokane Tribe supported us in the levy
Soft skills
Innovative
Accountability
Adaptability – 3-4 different generations
Community – lack of definition
Imbedding ourselves in other organizations – share advertising costs etc
Lack of organizations working together – independent loyalty
The library could be the binder!
- Demographics that jumped out: Property taxes
Public safety – violent crimes in the area are low but domestic violence is high
Our trends mirror the state - lower but follow the state trends
High unemployment is a chronic problem
High poverty
Mirror the state in high school diplomas but much lower with college
There is an outmigration of educated
Population has remained the same
- Funding: This needs to be tackled at the state level. A new funding model is needed. The group discussed how Colorado has one state library and how that helps rural areas.
- Parking lot (important ideas to remember):
Be the binder
Library should be listed as “help” etc. with other organizations in the county.
- JD talked about looking at what we can do versus what we can't do.
- Teah is researching successful communities. These conversations have sparked an interest for her – what makes a successful community? Organizations come together, campaign, join forces. She feels that the different communities in Stevens County do not come together well.
- Maybe eBooks are the future.
- Next stage – Staff survey will go out next week and the Board will begin talking to people in the community. In May a Strategic Plan draft will be compiled for community and staff input. The goal is to approve the final draft at the June 18th meeting.
- Rick asked the group to consider and think about – Do we need a change? Can we be more relevant? He also feels there is a great benefit to meeting with the managers and would like to do it more often, maybe twice a year. He encouraged the managers to share their thoughts.

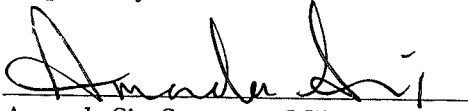
NEW BUSINESS: none

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.

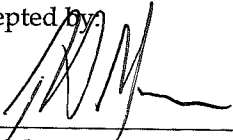
Chair adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:



Amanda Six, Secretary, SCRLD

Accepted by:



Rick Moore, Board Chair

4/16/15
Date