



Campbell County
Economic Development
Corporation

■ ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ■ COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ■ WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

5-Year Economic Development Strategic Plan for Campbell County

Steering Committee Meeting Notes

Wyoming Room, Campbell County Public Library

Thursday, December 3, 2009

4:30 – 6:30 PM

Committee Members Present:

Megan Lehman, Julie Simon, Dan Barks, Jessica Louk, Mark Herrmann, Cathrine Coulter, Brenda Schladweiler, Bob Zabel, Katie Allen, Luann Borgialli and Steve Laakso. New members, Dale Shields, Toni Brown and Pam Thomas

CCEDC Staff Present:

Philippe M. Chino, Brandi Beecher and Mary Melaragno

- Co-Chair Megan Lehman welcomed everyone to the Steering Committee meeting. Megan acknowledged the original due date for the Strengths was to be on December 21st, but it has been extended to January 7th because of the holiday. Megan stressed the importance to have the Strengths finished by the 7th so the groups can review the final projects and present the final project to the media on January 19th.
- The second meeting in January will be on Tuesday, January 19th instead of Monday, January 18th in observance of the holiday.
- Philippe Chino welcomed to the meeting Dale Shields from Experience Works who is currently assisting the CCEDC staff and Pam Thomas from Century 21.
- Philippe also updated on the P.R. Committee. Kim Hansel won't be involved on a week to week basis as she feels she loses touch with what is going on. The P.R. Committee will assist staff with media updates such as Facebook, The Chamber website and CCEDC's website.

Each task force chair gave a five minute presentation on what they have worked on and the Steering Committee members had five minutes to discuss/make suggestions on what they heard.

Education Task Force

- Mark Herrmann presented a PowerPoint presentation for his task force:
 - Discussed the Strengths; a few examples:
 - 91% of students are proficient in technology standards
 - 772 students enrolled in Career Technical Education Classes
 - Available B.O.C.H.E.S. Funding
 - More examples are available on Google Groups
 - Discussed that this is not final and they feel if they have to explain what it means, it shouldn't be included in the Strengths.
 - Will spell out B.O.C.H.E.S.
 - Will work on turning percentages into actual numbers
 - Working on contacting Wright for their information
 - Gillette won 40% 4A sports championships during the past 5 years but will also work on pointing out academic accomplishments as well
 - Working on what the residents cost the state and how much go back into services
 - Looking into how much money goes into infrastructure

Government

- Megan Lehman gave an update on behalf of Chair Katie Allen on their task force:
 - Have a lot of information and are now working on quantifying the information
 - How do you say business sector?
 - Working on how to quantify private sectors
 - Will see how many fortune 500 companies are in the area

Tax and Finance

- Bob Zabel gave presentation on behalf of Dane Joslyn:
 - Task Force met with Dave Spencer from the Wyoming Business Council and discussed what opportunities are available.
 - Luann Borgialli believes there are a lot of grants available
 - Bob has visited with many bankers but so far not a lot have been very helpful. One banker has told him he has a number of ideas and to contact him after the holidays to discuss.
 - State ranked taxes with U.S. as 45th. No state or corporate taxes which can be a big seller when businesses are looking to relocate to Campbell County

- Noted the big thing is businesses don't understand the tax structure and it deters future companies from possibly coming to Campbell County. Need to work on trying to sit down with companies and explain to them the tax structure

Energy and Agriculture

- Julie Simon gave a handout with updates from their Task Force:
 - Some items included on handout were:
 - According to 2008 demographic data- 22,670 workers are employed in Campbell County. Of the 22,670 workers, 6,760 are employed directly at the coal mines.
 - It is estimated that each coal-mining job supports three related jobs in other business sectors.
 - In 2007, the average income in the Wyoming coal industry was \$75,977, twice the state average of \$39,245.
 - Will be uploaded to Google Groups
 - A few things that were brought up were:
 - How many of 22,670 employees live in Campbell County and how many drive from elsewhere?
 - Needs to say available workforce
 - Find strength in minerals
 - Will quantify numbers pertaining to agriculture
 - #2 industry in Wyoming is hunting and tourism

NEXT MEETING THURSDAY, JANUARY 7TH 4:30 – 6:30 PM. DINNER WILL BE PROVIDED.

WILL BE AT THE OPEN RANGE STEAKHOUSE IN WRIGHT