



RMC Joint Planning and Development Committee Meeting

Date: Tuesday, November 2, 2021

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Type: Zoom Teleconference

Participants: Chair Mike Thielke, Scott Warner, Susan Harrison, John Hartline, Don Mulrine, Charlotte Davis, Dakota Matthews, Megan D'Arcy

Minutes

Chair Mike Thielke welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:04 am. Chair Thielke requested that meeting materials be sent to participants one week prior to the quarterly meetings.

Chair Mike Thielke asked participants to review the minutes from the September 2, 2021 meeting and asked if anyone had any questions or changes. Chair Thielke had a question regarding a reference to the nominating committee's process and the membership recruitment materials and Ms. Charlotte Davis provided an answer referencing the items located on page 13 of the meeting packet in response to Goal 2 Task 2.1 of the Strategic Plan. There were no other questions. Chair Thielke asked for a motion to accept the 9/2/2021 minutes. Ms. Susan Harrison made the motion to the accept the minutes. Mr. Don Mulrine seconded the motion. The 9/2/2021 minutes were unanimously adopted.

Ms. Charlotte Davis reviewed the updated Strategic Plan progress report with the Committee and stated of the 21 action items, the Council has completed 5 and staff are currently working on 6 items and 10 still need to be addressed with the majority not due until 2023. Ms. Davis further stated that we are in year 1 of a 3-year plan and she feels that the Council is in a good spot for completing action items on time. Chair Thielke asked if there were any questions. Ms. Davis was asked to distribute the last proposal for USDA Place Making grant for the Committee so that they can look at it and offer support for a future grant. Regarding Goal 2.1, the Committee asked for staff to include a time frame by inserting months. Regarding 2.4, the Committee discussed adding more structure to the working committees' documents to include priorities, outcomes, and directives. Chair Thielke asked if it was reasonable to have each Committee provide three intended outcomes for the next year. The Committee agreed. Staff will reach out to Committee Chairs and work on updating this document. Ms. Davis provided an update on the RESI Economic Analysis study with the plan for it be completed by January 2022. Regarding 4.2, the Committee reviewed the legislative priorities for FY2023 and Ms. Davis stated that the Council requested an extra \$3 million for RMPIF and the 4th PIN for staff. The Committee made a comment on including partners on the priorities document. Chair Thielke asked staff to include time frames for 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 by including the months by which the priorities are for the fiscal year if these are annual activities. Regarding 4.3, the Committee discussed the request process that included

requests to be vetted in front of the committee during the quarterly meetings and then sent to either the Council's Executive Committee or the Foundation to be addressed.

The Committee asked Ms. Davis to include DLS, DBM, and the RMPIF Committee under section 5.1 to help people understand that the information collected from the grant is fairly developed.

The Committee discussed transferring goal 5 – *'Gather and analyze data on rural issues to identify trends and needs'* to the Foundation as they are developing their own plan and it may fit well in their possible think tank initiative. President Dan Rider of the Foundation felt goal 5 was an appropriate role for the Foundation. The Committee made a recommendation for the Foundation to take up a major portion of Goal 5 in its consideration of developing their strategic plan. Product of 5.1 and 5.1 gets transferred to the Foundation.

The Committee discussed a new time frame for goal 6 with the new deadline set for be June 30, 2022. For 6.2, Ms. Davis stated that there is a plan, but the Executive Committee needs to make a recommendation to the Executive Board on identifying a 6-month interim if needed. The Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee so that it can be presented to the Executive Board in April 2022. Discussion on 6.3 was deferred to the next meeting.

The Committee reviewed the membership recruitment materials for the Nominating Committee. The Committee discussed follow-up to the groups since this is the first time that we will be reaching out to many of them. Groups include social clubs such as Ruritan and Civitan.

President Dan Rider of the Rural Maryland Foundation provided an update on the strategic planning process that was facilitated by Consultant LaCharla Figgs and will be prepared for the March 2022 meeting. Mr. Rider asked if it made sense to handle the strategic plan updates and progress updates at the same time with this Committee. The Committee agreed with Mr. Rider.

Other items discussed included reviewing the USDA Placemaking grants in order to make a competitive proposal as possible and whether or not such grants should come from the Foundation or the Council. Ms. Davis stated it depends on the eligibility of the organization applying. The Committee discussed the funding available from the Build Back Better opportunity and to target people that can be responsive to grant opportunities and provide technical assistance/expertise to help build capacity for rural serving nonprofits.

Chair Mike Thielke asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Don Mulrine made the motion to adjourn. Mr. John Hartline seconded it. The meeting adjourned at 11:23 pm.

Next Meeting: Thursday, March 17, 2022, 10 am – 12 pm, via zoom