

**Community Building Development Team  
Minutes**

Date: Tuesday, December 17, 2013

Location: Solon Center Wesleyan Church

**VISION STATEMENT**

The Community Building Development Team exists to construct a building and space where the many clubs, governmental entities, educational organizations, community organizations and residents of the greater Cedar Springs community can gather for cultural, educational, recreational, commercial and family/community events. Because this vision enhances the mission and goals of these many entities, we hope to collaborate with them to design, raise the funds and construct this space. It is our goal, as reflected in the vision statements of many other community entities, that the space will retain our small-town character, incorporate natural features, link neighborhoods, enhance characteristics that already define our community and make it easy for families, youth, senior citizens, organizations and all community members to gather, celebrate and serve each other.

**Attendees:**

Tom Mabie	Bob Truesdale	Betty Truesdale	Kurt Mabie	Carolee Cole
Donna Clark	Amanda Gerhardt	Dave Cairy	Keith Hall	Sue Wolfe
Dan George	Jerod Gross	Dan Clark	Tom Holloway	Claudia Mabie
Jeff Gust	Mark Laws			

The meeting was called to order at 5:43 pm by Kurt Mabie.

1. The fund is all set up and ready for donations
  - \$100,000 is in the building fund and \$400 in the expense account.
  - It was moved by Mark Laws and seconded by Tom Holloway to make Tom Mabie a second officer who can sign checks.
  - Names on the account are Tom Mabie, Betty Truesdale, Julie Wheeler
  - The name of the fund is Cedar Springs Area Community Building Project, Inc.
  - To see our Articles of Incorporation go to the following website:  
[http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/bcs\\_corp/sr\\_corp.asp](http://www.dleg.state.mi.us/bcs_corp/sr_corp.asp) Select "Search Database by ID Number: and type in 71421N. Select "View Document Images." (I had to update by JAVA stuff to get it to load.) Once you have the name in front of you, click on the camera to the left of the name.
    - ❖ **Next month we will be accepting these articles of incorporation. Please review them and come prepared to approve or make changes.**
2. Discussion regarding people who could write grants.
  - Sandy Waite was suggested for grant writing.
  - Lexie Coxon has helped in the past and may be willing to help again.
  - Tom Holloway suggested we also develop a presentation that could be personally made to groups and persons in order to solicit funds in addition to writing grants for written requests
3. Just a note that Lexie Coxon had suggested architectural drawings before we get too far into fund raising.
4. Discussion regarding possible partners and donors.
  - Mark Laws reported that Trout Unlimited is working on a project on 10 Mile.
    - ❖ Someone helped them secure a lot of grant funding and Mark believes this person might be willing to help us write grants.
    - ❖ We are hoping they can help us through challenges with the DNR.
    - ❖ We are also hopeful they will determine whether we might be able to create some trout applications at our site.
    - ❖ Mark is working to get the DDA and Trout Unlimited to work together and with us so all our plans might support and enhance one another.

- ❖ Trout Unlimited would also be able to advise us in working with the DEQ.
  - The North Country Trail is a hiking trail that starts in the State of North Dakota and goes continuously through 7 states ending in the State of Maine. When it is completed it will be the longest continuous hiking trail in the United States.
    - ❖ The trail passes through Cedar Springs. Go to this website to see more information <http://northcountrytrail.org/trail/states/>
    - ❖ It is possible that partnering with them might be of benefit to some of our plans.
  - Grand Rapids Bike Coalition has created bike routing in Grand Rapids so bikers don't have to ride on main roads. They have also developed bike parking in front of breweries and restaurants. They might be able to help us tie together the whole city with bike/walk opportunities.
  - Nelson Township has \$43,000 in grant money of which \$15,000 needs to be distributed before the end of the year. This is just an example of money that might be available through these types of governmental entities if we just ask and encourage local and connected units of government to give to our project.
  - Cedar Springs Graduates.
    - ❖ Ed Foundation has a list of graduates.
    - ❖ 50 plus class reunion has a list of people from past graduating classes.
  - Receiving a donation in exchange for the donors name on a Brick in Sidewalk, Chair, Room, stone in a retaining wall, etc. is another way to raise money.
5. City Council will be working on their 5 year plan soon. We would like to get in on that conversation.
  6. Website Creation: Keith Hall will speak with some of his contacts and see if we could get some help getting it designed and up and running.
  7. Articles in the newspaper. We are almost done with the presentations to community groups and want to be prepared to publish articles in the newspaper to keep the community informed on progress. Claudia Mabie nominated Sue Wolfe to write Newspaper Articles. It was approved. Claudia, Donna Clark and Carolee Cole will provide back up and editorial support.
  8. Footprint: The group broke into 5 groups to brainstorm through the list of suggestions for the composition of the building. It was agreed that the relative order of significance of elements of the building is as follows:
    - #1 – All Purpose Room/Banquet Area / Licensed Kitchen – What Size?
    - #2 – Full Size Gym
    - #3 – Small Movie Presentation Room
    - #4 – Coffee Bar
    - #5 – Board Walk / Flowing, Lighted Well
    - #6 – Rest and Revitalization
    - #7 – Kid play area / splash pad area
  9. New and Other thoughts that came out of the small group discussions:
    - What exists at Pine Ridge?
    - What will exist if the library builds separately from us?
    - Are we imagining a two story building or a one story building? We are leaning toward a 2 story structure.
    - Incubator kitchen would allow us to generate income. Turns your kitchen into a rental kitchen for the purpose of Teaching classes in cooking and use to make meals for larger groups for profit, etc.
    - Comfortable place for kids to play and moms to meet.
    - Building needs to have internet connectivity throughout.
    - Who is our target audience? Maybe a good way to determine what elements are most significant is to work backwards from defining our target audience It's kids and families.

- So, how do we build a structure that provides the flexibility to serve smaller groups of moms and toddlers? Cooking Classes? Rotary party of 40 or 50?
- The community already contains several large rooms and many small rooms, but those rooms in the middle are needed.
- We want to serve kids in middle- and high-school, but we also want to serve moms/dads and small children who need a place to meet for a play date in the late morning.
- Amanda has drawings and pricing for a skate park that was designed before the economy ended it. It provided lighting and ice skating in the winter in addition to the skate park, etc. in the summer.

10. There may be some zoning issues in the city that will need to be addressed to pave the way for plans.

#### 11. Assignments:

- Everyone: Surf the web, travel, and observe what buildings already exist that serve our purposes. Steal ideas! Take Pictures. Bring back brochures. Make contacts.
- Someone with a connection to Pine Ridge: What is available in the new building at Pine Ridge? Will it be available to the community? How often? When? <http://www.pineridgecamp.com/> Here is the link to the website. (The website says they do rent their dining hall which will hold 250 people.)
- Everyone: Are there other buildings in the area that already provide opportunities we have noted as needs for Cedar Springs and surrounding community residents?
- Keith will get a website up.
- Sue and helpers will write an article for the Post after the website is ready for the community to access.
- Mark and Kurt will get Trout Unlimited connected.
- Bob will get drawings. Contact Duane regarding the drawings he is doing for the library.
- Kurt will set up a meeting with Sonia Cronkright and the DDA.
- Kurt will keep in contact with the Library Board regarding both construction projects to keep us on each other's radar and page.

#### 12. Next Meeting Agenda Items:

- Bylaws will be reviewed and accepted.
- See assignments above.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2014, 5:30 – 7:30 pm at Solon Wesleyan Church.

Please contact Carolee Cole at [caroleecole@gmail.com](mailto:caroleecole@gmail.com) if you cannot make it.

Respectfully submitted  
Carolee Cole  
Secretary