

Minutes
Public Meeting #2
Tuesday, September 27, 2005
6:30 pm
Lock Haven University – Clearfield Campus

Top Issues Facing your Family or Business:

- (1) Rising cost of living (fuel, taxes, etc...)
- Need for manufacturing businesses (higher wage jobs)
- (1) Stuck in the past – need to think outside the box (new ideas, new technologies, looking at larger area needed for our future success)
- Uncontrolled growth
- (2) Clean up our water supplies, streams, etc.
- Low education levels (especially science and math)
- Storm water run off problems
- Looking ahead of immediate problems / solutions to future issues
- Lack of amenities to attract people/ keep them here

Types of development you would or would NOT want for your communities:

Would Want:

Refurbishing existing structures

- Family oriented businesses (small towns)
- Taxable development
- Specialty shops
- More “Curb appeal”
- More parking

Would NOT Want:

- Landfills
- Prisons
- Tax – free development

What would you change or NOT change about Clearfield County:

Would Change:

- (2) Enhance area’s beauty (Clean up strip mines, etc.)
- (3) More municipal cooperation (recognize that borders aren’t as relevant today)
- (1) More focus on tourism
- Better water quality and quantity

Would NOT Change:

- Beauty

Views on how to improve our Housing infrastructure:

- (1) Affordable single – family homes
- (1) Incentives to refurbish older homes in need or repair
- County should take lead
- Upkeep assistance for seniors
- (1) Property tax relief for seniors / those with fixed incomes
- Alternatives for moderate – to – upper income retirees
- (3) Lease to purchase programs for homes (help build equity)

Views on how to improve Social Service programs:

- Better Transportation
- Agencies need to reduce barriers to service (better explanations, easier to find info, etc.)
- Need to get back to local grass roots solutions (too much bureaucracy)
- Need to take ownership of problems instead of relying on bureaucracy to solve them
- Regulatory changes needed to improve care
- Streamline processes
- (1) Better outreach (lots of isolation that leads to people not getting help)
- Help for middle working class folks

Views on how to improve our Healthcare system:

- Regulatory changes needed to improve care
- (1) Rural healthcare requires different focus needs to flow both ways (bring service to people)
- People need to look out for their neighbors (especially elderly or infirmed)
- (2) Participate in regional / national initiatives to keep providers here
- Scholarships for students in exchanged for agreeing to serve here
- Higher wages for healthcare providers
- Need to find ways to keep people in profession

Views on how to improve our Economic Development efforts:

- Promote Tourism
- Need outside private investment
- Need to be open minded regarding development
- Promote natural resource assets
- (2) Need more things to do for all ages (tourism – related businesses for all)

- Attract cross – sectional audiences
- (1) Broad marketing (50 million people within 3hr drive)
- (4) Think outside the box

Views on how to improve our Transportation network:

- Improve Clearfield municipal airport to accommodate larger planes
- Need taxi services
- (4) Encourage greater use of public transit network
- Develop trolley service in downtowns

Views on how to improve our Education system:

- (1) Rising wages for educators to keep quality teachers here
- (1) Need Vo-tech school / community college for adult edu.
- Reduce disparities in school funding
- (1) Need to find solutions to root problems that lead folks to have low education levels
- (2) Form consortium between schools and employers – educate next generation of workers, set expectations

Views on how to best utilize, sustain or remediate/prevent deterioration of our Natural Resources:

- Vote “No” on dump
- (2) Educate about need to protect our natural resources
- Need to protect and remediate areas where timbering has occurred (more controls needed, especially to prevent erosion)
- (1) Eliminate illegal dumps
- Advocate statewide bottle deposit bill
- More accessible recycling program material
- Improve marketability of recycle materials
- (5) Encourage composting of organic waste (source of income selling compost)

Views on how to best preserve and enhance our Historical / Cultural Resources:

- Improve hours of historical societies (more public access)
- Seek ways to support volunteer system
- Better organize historic groups to better promote our sites
- Encourage public interest
- Better educate about local history
- (1) Need to pass the torch to younger generation