



AGENDA

ENVISION LAKEVILLE CULTIVATE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY TASKFORCE

November 9, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.

Marion Conference Room

City Hall

- 1) Call to Order**
- 2) Approval of October 5, 2021 Meeting Minutes**
- 3) Review of Community Conversations on Race**
- 4) Community Survey and Focus Groups Discussion**
- 5) Items for Future Discussion**



MINUTES
ENVISION LAKEVILLE CULTIVATE A SENSE OF COMMUNITY TASKFORCE
October 5, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Marion Conference Room
Lakeville City Hall

Members present: Christine Yohnke, Daniel Wolter, John Swaney, Matt Norman, Mike Howells, Cynthia Cajune, and Dan Feldkamp

Members absent: Naomi Garcia, Ajay Raikar

Staff: Justin Miller, City Administrator

Meeting began at 6:30 pm.

- 1) Introductions
 - Chair Wolter called the meeting to order at 6:30 and, for purposes of introductions, asked each member to elaborate on what “a sense of community” meant to them individually.
- 2) Approval of September 21, 2021 Minutes
 - Norman made a motion, seconded by Swaney, to approve the minutes as submitted. All voted in favor.
- 3) 2020 Census Presentation
 - Miller provided an overview of the 2020 Census information for the city as well as reviewed other demographic information as provided by the Metropolitan Council. Members asked questions throughout and discussed what the city’s changing demographics mean for the future of Lakeville.
- 4) Review of 2013 and 2018 Community Survey Results
 - Members shared their thoughts on what stood out regarding the two most recent community surveys (2013 and 2018). There was also discussion relating to how a new survey might be conducted to address the charge of the taskforce.
- 5) Next Steps on Focus Groups and Community Survey
 - The group spent considerable time discussion how focus groups could be conducted (facilitator, location, etc.) and what the desired outcomes may be. It was suggested that members come to the next meeting with ideas of how focus groups may be structured as

well as think about what community events are already occurring that could be utilized as conversation locations. It was also suggested that members of the Community Conversation on Race working group be invited to an upcoming meeting to review their thoughts about what was learned through that process.

- Members were also asked to review efforts of other cities in relation to this topic and report back their findings.

6) Meeting Schedule

- It was decided that future meetings be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30 in the Marion Conference Room (with the exception of the November meeting, which will be held on November 9th due to election day conflicts).

7) Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Dave Callister

City Manager, Plymouth, MN

Conversation held on 28 Oct 2021 with Matt Norman

I contacted Dave and asked him to tell me what Plymouth does when trying to address the question of how to Cultivate a Sense of Community.

Parks & Rec. The goal of P & R is to create programs that are fun, exciting, and designed for kids & families.

1. Music festival in July.
2. Fire & Ice festival in February. ~6,000 people attend
3. A Parks & Rec employee titled **Volunteer Coordinator** works with the businesses in town to facilitate projects for their employees who want to engage in their community.
4. A new program to have "Community Concerts" 2-3 times per year will also engage the hospitality businesses in town. A new Plymouth lodging tax helps pay for this new event.

Public Safety.

1. "Police & Fire Citizens Academy" A very popular program in which roughly 30 residents attend a class, 1 night per week for 12 weeks put on by Police and Fire. This class is designed to show citizens what happens on a patrol, what SWAT is, how an arrest is made, how fire calls are addressed, and many other facets of police and fire work. The goal is to get people to be supporters of police & fire because they have a better understanding of how the PD and FD work.
2. "Environmental Academy" Same format as Police & Fire Citizens Academy except put on by public works dept. It addresses questions such as how water treatment works, which trees get pruned and why, road ice chemical control, etc...
3. Police to community collaboration group. Once per month. No formal structure. "Coffee with a cop"

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion.

The city has hired a person for this position who will start looking at DEI programs internally before moving out into the community.

To: Cultivate a Sense of Community Task Force

Date: November 2, 2021

RE: *possible Action Items*

From: Chris Yohnke

These are some tangible items that may contribute to enhancing and expanding the sense of community that exists in Lakeville. They are not in order of importance or priority.

Reviewing them in advance of the meeting can prepare us for good discussion. With your additions and other suggestions, we can present thoughtful and effective recommendations to the City Council.

1. Turquoise tables – or whatever color – in Lakeville City Parks. Hospitable tables where people can engage in conversation with people they don't know.
<https://theturquoisetable.com/about/> I am not recommending that we join this program and do it exactly their way, but the message presented resonates with our task. It's a natural and organic way to cultivate community.
 - Include explanation on City Website
 - City Promotion – community paper
 - Signage on table itself
 - Post info about it on Nextdoor
2. Have City post information regularly on Nextdoor to All of Lakeville re: upcoming events.
 - People go to City website with specific needs, not for general events/happenings.
 - Include link to City Website for additional info
 - Does City post on TikTok about events/happenings?
3. Have City include Indian Ancestral History information on all Park Renovations (suggestion from Conversations on Race)
 - Display Signage at actual parks as they are being re-designed.
 - Written history on City website, linked to Park
 - Partner with Lakeville Historical Society
4. Have City Zoning/Planning Commission re-evaluate new park requirements in new multi-family housing developments (suggestion from Conversations on Race)
 - Recommend requiring more extensive parks in low income/high density developments.

5. Have City share with Arts Center the suggestion to connect with Mixed Blood and Heart of the Beast Theaters for future collaboration on diverse performances. (suggestion from Conversations on Race)
6. City Website is undergoing 5 year re-design project.... Where are they at in the 5 year process?
 - What can we recommend that they include on the re-designed site?
 - Are changes being incorporated that specifically 'foster community'? i.e. a specific link for "New To Lakeville" – resources, groups, employment links etc
 - How many 'hits' does City website receive? Trending up/down?
7. Update "History of Lakeville" on City Website to include Indigenous Americans presence and story.
8. How can various spiritual/faith communities be included to participate in the 'cultivating a sense of community' process? At Pan O Prog, other events, and ongoing.
 - Backpack collection – Berean
 - ReStored Thrift Store – sponsor events or projects
 - Hosanna – Heart Ministry
 - Messiah Lutheran – food shelf
9. Night To Unite/National Night Out – promote more aggressively – earlier. (1st Tues of August)
 - Build database of neighborhood contacts to utilize throughout the year for communicating with and into neighborhoods.
10. Police / Mental Health professional – listening session. Scheduled once or regularly? (from Mike Richards email suggestion)
11. Is there an identified list of 'cultural groups' present within the city? Black, American Indian, Hispanic, Indian, Somali, Asian, German, Irish, etc which focus on sharing their culture with each other and anyone who is interested?
 - Do they have 'organizations' – formal or informal, contact person?
 - Can they be identified and specifically invited to participate, demonstrate, sponsor Lakeville community events
 - Add links to them on the City Website