

Task Force 6
March 23, 2015
CBB 323

Today the committee welcomed Carol Lilly from Downtown Cedar Falls and Mark Miller from the Arthur L. Davis Publishing Agency and the local neighborhood associations, as well as committee members from the Community Partnerships Task Force. The group made introductions and Gowri gave a brief summary of the Sustainability Task Force.

Gowri presented the initial question to the guests of what sustainability means to them, including linkages with UNI currently and in the future, and what kind of mutual benefits there are between UNI and outside entities.

- Mark
 - Neighborhoods want to embrace UNI
 - At previous neighborhood meeting, he asked if anyone from his association had talked to UNI about partnerships.
 - Association looked at how students living off campus affects them and their neighborhoods.
 - Want to see how UNI and the neighborhoods can work together to create a good place for kids and adults to live.
 - They are looking at the rental ordinances going to be in place by the city of Cedar Falls.
- Carol
 - Engagement with students
 - She and her department currently works with history and communication students on campus.
 - A big possible partnership was taking UNI's finished compost and using it to help local businesses.
 - Connections with history and communications departments
 - Carol creates projects for history students, communications students at UNI.
 - Carol also gets interns from leisure services to help them gain experience.

What are some sustainability aspects or community partnership aspects that each entity would like to see in the future?

- Stephanie Sheetz (City of Cedar Falls)
 - Partnerships among classes and city could be sustainable.
- Carol
 - Enjoys having the students from UNI, but it is very time consuming scheduling them.
 - Needs help sustainability-wise.
 - General awareness with communication and time.

- Composting – taking it into the community.
 - How do we bring the compost into the community for them to use?

As an entity that is outside of UNI, how does the business receive its information?

- Carol
 - RITTC helps with engagement and outreach
 - They also see it and read it in the paper
- Mark
 - Networking
 - See professors and students working out in the community
 - UNI just being out in the community and talking with workers.

How can UNI network more frequently and in a more impactful way sustainably?

- Money, need, and people are the anchors
- Currently the networking is ad hoc – informal conversations
 - Need of single stream front door for outside community.
- Time aspect is critical
 - There are cravings for long term planning.
 - A lot of short term plans currently.

Transportation

- Bike trails, accessibility
 - Create these community-wide improvements together.
- Removing 23rd Street and creating a new street to link the hill to the community.
- Need to keep in mind each other when dealing with transportation.
- Getting students out into the community easier and in different ways is beneficial.
 - Ease is key.

Long term planning – What is the optimal vision for the Cedar Valley 20 years from now?

- Mark
 - Educational level
 - Hold grade school level classes at UNI
 - Use UNI to create future UNI students from local grade schools.
 - Created resources or suggested steps for students to connect with the community
 - Ease internship connections
- Carol
 - Relationships are different with each education department at UNI
 - Internships are easy to plan, and projects for the students are hard to plan.
 - Some projects would be great for students but do not fit with the semester schedule for the class.
- Mark
 - Good internships with graphic design with community newsletters

- Sales internships with summer publications have been a great success.
- Carol
 - Getting students into the community starting freshman year and making known the opportunities and partnership opportunities could be greatly beneficial.
 - City partnerships with other city departments making known the work by students happening among them.
- Parker
 - Know about community and off campus activities from staff and faculty and involvement on campus
 - Already existing connections is how new connections are made.
- Carol
 - New faculty used to be celebrated out in community spaces for parties, then it moved on campus.
 - Could be a good idea to move back off campus to create new connections.
- Stephanie
 - Figure out what the suburban development impact is, and keep it together.
 - Fund trails, mass transit, “clean up” old junk.
 - No slow down on sprawl in Cedar Falls
 - Possible modal flip from autos to pedestrians?
 - Neighbors do not want sidewalks for unknown reasons.
 - Hard to make modal changes.

Big moves developmentally that changes vision with UNI

- Any major changes currently is unknown
- The mall is going to go away
 - Same with many malls across the US
 - May create partnership with this space
- High School movement
 - Huge impacts and shifts
 - It would be a “drive-to” school.

It was suggested that energy sustainability on campus would be more widespread in the future and actually be seen by visitors.

- Having solar panels that tilt

Are there any energy reduction plans for the future?

- Mark
 - Solar farm investments
 - Solar shingles
- Stephanie
 - No steps have currently been taken with CFU, but they have tips in newsletter to save energy.

Collaboration beyond committees

- Each entity should at least have a position at the table to listen to UNI and the city's Master Plans.

Both aspects are permeable

- UNI out to community, community to UNI.
- Utilize land, people, and buildings.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25AM. The next meeting is scheduled for
April 6 from 8:00-9:30AM in CBB 327.