

CHAIRPERSON
THOMAS MORGAN

TASK FORCE MEMBERS
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INGHAM COUNTY 2023 STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE
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THE STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE WILL MEET ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2023 AT
6:15 P.M., IN CONFERENCE ROOM A, HUMAN SERVICES BUILDING, 5303 S. CEDAR,
LANSING.

Call to Order

Approval of September 21, 2023 Draft Minutes

Additions to the Agenda

Limited Public Comment

1. Review & Discuss Final Draft
2. Recommend Final Draft to the Board of Commissioners

Announcements

Public Comment

Adjournment

There are no additionally scheduled meetings at this time

2023 Strategic Planning Task Force

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DRAFT MINUTES September 21, 2023

Members Present: Commissioner Schafer, Commissioner Maiville, Commissioner Morgan, Commissioner Cahill

Members Absent: Commissioner Pawar

Others Present: Deputy Controller Jared Cypher, Assistant to Controller Rachel Prettenhofer, Budget Analyst Jill Bauer, Representative Patrick Ibarra (virtual)

Call to Order: The 2023 Strategic Planning Task Force meeting was called to order by Commissioner Morgan at 10:34 a.m., Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 5303 Cedar Street, Lansing, Michigan Human Services Building Conference Room A and virtually via Zoom.

Approval of August 30, 2023, Minutes:

Commissioner Schafer moved to approve the August 30, 2023 minutes as presented. Commissioner Cahill supported the motion.

Yeas: Commissioner Morgan, Commissioner Maiville, Commissioner Schafer, Commissioner Cahill

Nays: None.

Absent: Commissioner Pawar

Additions to the Agenda: None.

Limited Public Comment: None.

1. Review Draft Strategic Areas of Focus and Goals

Section B.

Mr. Cypher stated that underserved is a contentious word and there is discussion about it in the field. He further stated that he is not sure if it is the right word because we are here to serve those people and they are kind of the reason for our existence.

Discussion.

Mr. Ibarra stated that it is an ongoing debate The HD going through own strategic plan now and will drill further down into it. This is being met through services they provide and calling out certain groups gets awkward.

Commissioner Maiville said to add in “every person”.

Commissioner Schafer stated that we oversee Roads and that is not for only the underserved. She then listed numerous areas that we oversee (millages, TCOA), and explained that the HD is broad and that it services everybody, but has special ways of serving specific groups.

Section C.

Mr. Cypher stated that it was wordy, but that they wanted to capture the essence. We already have programs emerging and they wanted to say to just reduce violence in general. Some wanted to do gun violence, but he was told that is too specific.

Commissioner Schafer stated that a lot seems to be taken care of by the victim and that she feels like Law & Courts are missing. She asked whether or not there is anything we can do to address accountability.

Mr. Cypher stated that he had purposefully avoided mention of law enforcement and that he thinks the first two clauses are consistent with Advance Peace right now. It is always sensitive with how law enforcement issues are posted.

Commissioner Morgan stated that he agreed, but that we do have to mention law enforcement. We can't be too sensitive over an area we are tasked with overseeing.

Commissioner Morgan offered several edits to page 19.

Mr. Ibarra stated that he has a prediction: in 5 years, he thinks we will see that Public Health will take one even more definitions.

Discussion.

Section D.

Commissioner Schafer stated that we should take out solar panels and just support environment sustainability.

Discussion.

Commissioner Morgan stated that the language about light seems very in the weeds and offered more edits to page 19.

Commissioner Schafer stated that she is concerned about the physical and mental health only being mentioned at parks.

Mr. Cypher and Commissioner Morgan offered several edits. Commissioner Morgan's edits were agreed upon.

The Strategic Planning Committee left for a break at 11:26 a.m.

The Strategic Planning Committee returned at 11:31 a.m.

Section E.

Commissioner Morgan offered more edits to page 19.

Commissioner Maiville stated that we don't have anything on broadband.

Commissioner Ibarra stated that we could add “continue efforts to implement broadband countywide”.

Commissioner Morgan stated that we could say, “Support the expansion of reliable broadband technology throughout the county”.

Commissioner Schafer stated that she took a tour of Montgomery Drain and had asked the Drain Commissioner if they had a master plan. She stated that not only do they have one with the public but also with other entities in the county. If everyone has master plans, it reduces conflict. She offered edits to page 20.

Discussion.

Commissioner Schafer stated that we should be looking at whether or not something is financially sustainable.

Commissioner Morgan stated that we should put a pin in it, as he see’s Commissioner Schafer’s point, however, the subject is not germane to the topic. He offered further edits to page 20.

Discussion.

Commissioner Schafer asked whether or not we do exit interviews.

Mr. Cypher stated that we sometimes do.

Commissioner Schafer asked whether or not we want to implement those annually.

Mr. Ibarra stated that lot of places want to be a preferred employer.

Commissioner Morgan stated that that is good because good government wants to talk about transparency.

Commissioner Maiville stated that the goal about transparency should be moved to the top of the list. He further stated that we need some mechanism for feedback. He stated that it is going to depend on the situation whether or not it is regularly or annual, etc.;

Discussion.

Mr. Cypher stated that that Controller’s Office supervises and spends most of its time in the office. The Controller does make effort to get out to other departments, but we are not there all day, every day, so there has to be a mechanism in place for employees to lead upward. He stated that he does not know the answer for everything, but the Controller’s Office is pinch point between employees and the board of Commissioners. We want employees to feel comfortable bringing solutions.

Commissioner Schafer asked about labor issues.

Commissioner Morgan stated that we want to be an employer of choice, which brings in right to choose etc; It can get messy. He stated that we may want to describe how we want to be a preferred employer.

Mr. Cypher stated that the next goal, from Potter Park Zoo, talks about staff retention.

Commissioner Morgan stated that there could be an objective of a broader goal.

Discussion.

Mr. Cypher stated that the Commissioner should see the Health in All Policy goal.

Commissioner Morgan asked whether or not it was too into the details.

Mr. Cypher stated that highways deal with noise and air pollution and stated that, yes it, does get into the details, but it is also something that impacts neighborhoods and citizens, so it's important.

Commissioner Morgan stated that we should say something that supports the larger goal or is a goal itself.

Discussion.

Commissioner Morgan asked whether or not we should consider the health implications of policy decisions.

Commissioner Maiville stated that we already have the Health in All Policies (HiAP) committee for that.

Mr. Cypher explained that HiAP was directed before the pandemic, but then the pandemic hit and the goals of HiAP got extensions. Ms. Rodriguez, the DEI Director then picked it up, but we do not technically have a policy yet.

Commissioner Schafer stated that she would assume that, with the mission statement, it is redundant.

Commissioner Morgan asked whether or not it is too broad?

Commissioner Schafer stated that we already cover it. Everything we do should be looking through that lens.

Mr. Cypher stated that it is about more than just trails,

Commissioner Maiville stated that it is okay as long as there is justification for the bullet point implementation. We definitely need it, but if we scratch here, we need something tied into strong implementation of the plan.

Mr. Cypher stated that even if it is pulled, we will not stop working on it.

Commissioner Morgan stated that often we forget about issues unless we're intentional about them. He stated that we should use simpler language.

Mr. Ibarra stated that we might find that goals need to be scrubbed a bit as we get into implementation. He explained that we might find that some are more of an objective.

Commissioner Schafer asked for examples or thoughts that would encompass.

Commissioner Morgan stated that, in every memo, it would be part of that.

Mr. Cypher asked what the health implications of this resolution are and that it would answer questions.

Commissioner Morgan offered the language “Consider the health impacts of every County decision”.

Discussion.

Mr. Ibarra stated that we may find later that some fall off the list or get absorbed and evolve into other things.

Discussion on how to evaluate effectiveness.

Commissioner Maiville stated that FOIAs have public hearings, etc. and asked whether or not this would be this number one.

Commissioner Morgan offered further edits to page 20 and stated that we should be open and transparent.

Mr. Ibarra stated that he recommends job descriptions to go under destination employer.

Commissioner Schafer stated that there is a concern of risk with people coming forward with other things.

Commissioner Morgan stated that we should be finding ways to grant requests rather than deny them within the law.

Commissioner Schafer: but erring sounds like something is wrong.

Commissioner Maiville stated that FOIA has a structure to protect privacy, but when we know what people are asking for, it makes it better.

Discussion.

Commissioner Morgan stated that it should be a goal to take this seriously.

Mr. Ibarra stated that he will polish up the notes and present it to the Board of Commissioners, but that we will have no more meetings. He further stated that he will work on appeal with staff and that it is good that this is the final meeting.

Commissioner Maiville stated that he is good with that approach.

Commissioner Morgan stated that almost everyone is on Human Services committee. He further stated that we can have a quick meeting to approve the plan before the Human Services meeting. Staff will work to polish up the plan, then have meeting called to recommend it.

Mr. Ibarra thanked the Strategic Planning Task Force and stated that he will reach out to Mr. Cypher. He stated that it was productive but it wasn't efficient and that was by design. He further stated that we did an excellent job of whittling down the goals. He found it to be enjoyable and thought provoking, and it shined a light on things. He further stated that he hopes everyone enjoyed process and found it well worth the time.

Announcements: None.

Public Comment: None.

The September 21, 2023, Strategic Planning Task Force meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

