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 plans
• 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 bets 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