

Power of We Consortium

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2011

Present: Vincent Delgado, Angela Austin, Hi Fitzgerald, Susan Pigg, Jessica Yorke, Janine Sinno, Eric Schertzing, Randy Rauch, Bev Phillips, Mary ZumBrunnen, Serg Ruiz, Bob Sheehan, Lynne Martinez, Holly Madill, Ken Sperber, Olga Hernandez-Patino, Bill Nelton, Regina Allen, John Melcher, Patricia Wheeler, Karen Batterham, Anne Barna, Marcus McKissic and recording secretary Linda Yencich.

I. Welcome, introductions, and announcements:

Vince Delgado, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order.

Welcome to our new community representatives: Regina Allen and Holly Madill

Jessica Yorke, ICHD Social Justice Coordinator announced that her first presentation which occurred on Wednesday was very successful and she would be willing to share more information about her work in a Power of We Consortium meeting.

Joan Nelson: a newsletter was distributed in addition to a flyer regarding, "Restoration Works in Lansing," which is a revitalization project of LCC, the Ingham County Land Band and the Allen Neighborhood Center. There are two properties on E. Kalamazoo Street (formerly foreclosed homes which have been restored). There will be many (scheduled) walk-through opportunities, beginning March 24th. Additionally, Allen Neighborhood Center will have a booth at the MSU home show.

Marcus McKissic shared a flyer regarding a "Save the Win" program being sponsored through CEDAM. He asked that we share this with others and sign up soon.

Bob Sheehan referred to the sustainability project for the Power of We Consortium, and asked that attendees please consider contributing. Without the Power of We much of what happens in this county would not happen. Makes checks out to ICHD. Peggy can send you an invoice.

II. Dialogue for Collective Impact*: Vincent Delgado shared with members that recently the co-chairs added "Collective Impact" to the Dialogue portion of the meeting with the goal of seeking ways to affect positive change. **Collective Impact*: the commitment of a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem.
(http://www.ssireview.org/articles/entry/collective_impact/)

A. Transportation Work Group

(15 minutes)

At the November, 2010 meeting of the PWC, the Ad Hoc Transportation Committee was transitioned into a full Work Group of the PWC. Recommendation III-A of the PWC's Recommendation Report states: Create a Mobility Broker position that would be the central point of contact for consumers who need information and services and the providers who operate the services. The Transportation Work Group will report on the availability and scope of a mobility broker, how it will operate, and how the work group will use data collected to provide continuous quality improvement in transportation options. Cathleen Edgerly and Jason Ball from CATA will present. (Attachment A)

Cathleen Edgerly shared a PPT presentation about the new “mobility broker” service through her position with Clean Commute, a program of CATA. This is a federally funded program that provides state-wide information about transportation options. Some of the resources that were referenced:

- MDOT contracts-out services for van pooling resources.
- Various bicycle groups are available, as well as CATA buses have attached bike racks, free of charge.
- ZipCar, a new program, offers cars on the MSU campus for people affiliated with MSU – and a network with some other universities.
- Share the ride vouchers – a network amongst various employer partners.
- Centralized mobility management, or ride matches, information sharing, data collecting to increase resources.

Cathleen requested that we please submit suggestions, ideas, and community needs to her. Anne Barna also suggested they look into the transportation needs of those who work at the Peckham site in Eaton County. Bob Sheehan expressed an interest in coordinating transportation services for CMH clients. Peggy Roberts is on the transportation work group and invites input or knowledge where there are needs to be met and added that the mobility broker was a strong recommendation from the PWC coalitions. For more information please call 393-RIDE, or www.cleancommute.org

B. Food Systems and Our Community Needs:

Did you ever stop to think about what’s involved in bringing food to your plate? A community food system is made up of every component of what it takes to get food from the farm to your table. Many of your colleagues have been working to better connect all the sectors of our food system for the purpose of bringing food that is healthy, green, fair and affordable to everyone in the mid-Michigan region. In this presentation, you will learn more about your role (and your organization’s role) in a community food system and explore with others what’s possible. Conviviality means being social and having fun over food. This will be a convivial experience!

As an opening, healthy food products were distributed to each table for attendees to share. Randy Bell, Joan Nelson, and Terry Link shared a PPT presentation entitled, “Good Food Matters!” Good food definition: healthy, green, fair and affordable. Community based food systems were also demonstrated. In 2009, a Food System Workgroup created a model to guide food system related activities which resulted in a white paper, input to the development of the Lansing Master Plan and current outreach events.

The “Mid Michigan Food System,” has sectors (the continuum from farm to distribution/process to table, also in retailing. See the magazine, “*Women’s Lifestyle*” this month for an article on a farm newly developed on some land which was donated on the east side of Lansing: www.cawlm.com . MSU just nominated that program for a national award.

MSU Extension along with U of M recently received a \$5,000,000 grant to study fresh food and the impact on the issue of obesity. Terry Link added that the Greater Lansing Food Bank works to connect all food related activities to operate as a “social capital” community towards social vitality.

Following the presentation, group discussions ensued about fond food memories. Participants identified common themes: food connects people, builds relationships; healthy foods are

prepared from scratch – again pulling people together; the experience of preparation and touching the food, experiencing the freshness can set the stage for a convivial/social event.

C. Tri County Suicide Prevention Work Group

A group of concerned individuals began meeting in July, 2010 to ascertain the need for an Ingham County suicide prevention group, and the efficacy of merging with previously established Eaton and Clinton County suicide prevention groups. Anne Barna (Health Analyst for Barry-Eaton District Health Department) and Serg Ruiz (PWC VISTA), will present a brief overview of current data regarding suicides in these three counties. Dialogue will be opened to consider the level of PWC member interest to further the work of this group.

Serg Ruiz shared data graphs which demonstrated the suicide rate in Ingham County over the past ten years. Of significance was that the majority of suicides claim the lives of white, adult males. Anne Barna shared slides with data that demonstrated tri-county data as it relates to the national suicide data. Currently, there are existing organizations who are working towards the prevention of suicide in the tri-county area, in addition to a new group forming at MSU to address the student suicide issues. Hi Fitzgerald shared about local efforts to support the military families in Michigan, and that suicide was one of the factors being addressed.

Bob Sheehan moved to support prevention efforts which are lead by the Eaton County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition. Hi supported. Subsequently, Randy Bell requested that we gather more information about the various groups who are working on this issue before we choose the group that PWC will support.

Bob Sheehan moved to re-evaluate the options next month. Angela seconded the motion; all approved, motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned: Next Meeting: April 15th, 2011