

Columbia Vision Commission
Feb. 16, 2011
Columbia Public Library, Room C

Present: Jan Weaver (chair), Khesha Duncan, Eric Peterson, Lee Henson, Becky Rentchler, Dee Dokken, Tracy Greever-Rice

Absent: Dan Goldstein (excused)

Agenda

Approve Agenda
Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting
Review the Natural Resources Inventory Draft Report and Make Recommendations
Propose Recommendations for the Vision Commission Report to Council
Comments from Commissioners
Comments from the Public
Adjournment

Peterson moved and Henson seconded that agenda be approved. Passed unanimously.

Peterson moved and Henson seconded that approval of Jan. 24, 2011 minutes be tabled until next meeting. Passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF NRI DRAFT REPORT:

Columbia Vision Commission subcommittee on NRI (Weaver, Peterson and Dokken) met Feb. 3, 2011, 5:30-7:30 PM in the lobby of Columbia Public Library. Weaver wrote draft comments which were reviewed by Vision Commission. They are included here:

NRI Meeting Recommendations

1. There should a one page executive summary at the beginning of the document with the report's key findings and recommendations. It should include the "limitations to development" and forest loss/gain information as well as the recommendation to form a Land Preservation Group, have E and E Commission assume Natural Resources Committee work and adoption of Green Infrastructure approach
2. The regional context section on pages 11 and 12 is misleading. Although it places the NRI in the right ecoregions, it then goes on to describe a different ecoregion and includes a map of that ecoregion.
3. The biomass section on page 21 does not mention the use of woody and grass biomass in coal-fired plants even though this is a potentially large source of future energy resources - 25% at MU, ? % at Columbia plant
4. Chapter 5 should include more information on streams, in particular: how stormwater - by itself - can impair water quality; pool and riffle structure in streams and other morphological characteristics harmed by stormwater; biological indicators and warm water aquatic life. This information is key to understanding the recent EPA decision concerning the Hinkson. Since Chapter 5 takes a great deal of care to explain other pollutants, it should also include these things.
5. Section 10.6, page 85, Limitations to Development - are these existing limitations, proposed limitations or stuff the city should keep in mind?
6. There were numerous (!) grammatical, spelling and editing errors, and places where more explanation or alignment of various definitions/criteria would be helpful. The Vision Commission will forward a copy of the draft with recommended corrections and additions

It was suggested that we add what we liked about the report and a list was generated. 1) Maps and graphs were useful. 2) Good that same data was presented in multiple formats 3) Includes in depth background information - it could be useful as a teaching tool 4) Organization is easy to follow 5) Limitation to development section could be part of summary

Dokken proposed that the recommendation about Land Preservation be revised to better incorporate the vision goals and the input from 2010 stakeholder meeting held by Vision Commission, including using the term "city-county Land Preservation Authority". Also including "...the Comprehensive Plan Taskforce, county commissions (P&Z, Parks), city and county officials, representatives from the business community and non-profits to assist in outlining the role, responsibility and composition of a city-county Land Preservation Authority"

Rentchler moved and Peterson seconded that above changes be approved. Passed unanimously.

Weaver will write final draft of NRI comments and submit to the city.

VISION TOPIC ASSIGNMENTS:

Each commission member should:

- 1) Know the topic from the Vision
- 2) Cultivate relationships with stakeholders - including holding a meeting
- 3) Propose 2-10 outcomes to use to measure progress, and how outcome would be measured
- 4) Track progress on action steps
- 5) Note "Big Events" - something significant that happened in community that impacted vision goals
- 6) Make recommendations about next steps.

There could be a time at each meeting to check in and report anything that's been done.

Assignments are: Rentchler - Education
Peterson - Development
Duncan - Governance
Henson - Health and Social Services
Dokken - Environment
Greever-Rice - Economic Development

Transportation, Community Pride and Human relations and Community Character remain. Weaver will talk to Goldstein and Fei about topics they want to choose and Weaver will take the remaining topic group.

Weaver reports that the following topics seem to be moving forward nicely on their own and we will just plan on keeping an eye on them:

Arts and Culture
Community Facilities and Services
Downtown
Parks, Recreation, Greenways and Trails

RECOMMENDATIONS for VISION COMMISSION REPORT TO COUNCIL:

"Community services programs run, administered and/or maintained by the City, Columbia Public Schools, United Way and others must meet publicly approved standards of accountability, must undergo annual program review, and must incorporate participant feedback in future planning."

Discussed how Columbia Vision Commission doesn't have any power to enforce this - we just have the bully pulpit to make recommendations.

Greever-Rice moved and Rentchler seconded that we approve the recommendation. Passed unanimously.

"The City Council should appoint a Task Force to use 2010 Census data and other critical information to review and, if needed, recommend revisions in Columbia's ward boundaries, composition and number in a way consistent with good governance, stewardship and equitability."

Greever-Rice moved and Duncan seconded that above recommendation be approved. Passed unanimously.

For next meeting: Rentchler will draft recommendation related to action 8.3.2.

Greever-Rice will draft recommendations for actions 7.1.3 and 7.1.3A

Dokken will align recommendations in NRI to Vision goals.

Duncan will research and bring any recommendation about city's affirmative action policy and search firm process.

Peterson will work on recommendations for Development actions.

Meeting ended 7:40 PM when Rentchler and Henson had to leave and there was no longer a quorum.
Minutes submitted by Dee Dokken, secretary