

**20/20 TASK FORCE
MEETING MINUTES
JULY 16, 2007**

"I like to see people proud of the place in which they live. I like to see people live in such a way that their place will be proud of them"

Abraham Lincoln, 16th President of the United States

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Gary Clark at 7:35 p.m. Roll call was taken.
Members Present:

Kent Baumkel
Kevin Hill
Mark Maynard
Deborah Strong
Nat Edmunds
Gary Clark

Members Absent:

Sean Stidd
Karen Maurer
Lisa Bashert
Nicole Brown
Linda Horne

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written. Thank you Sean Stidd.

Mayor Paul Schreiber was present at the meeting and as the first order of business he answered questions for our group related to the activities of the 20/20 Task Force.

Mayor Schreiber started out by stressing that we are a city council created entity and that although the resolution outlines five points to address, we are not bound to explore only those things. The resolution uses the modifying phrase "...as a minimum" when it refers to the five points. We are an independent body and we do not need to get permission from city council to act, he said. The mayor said people on the task force were selected for their diverse and strong opinions. They also sought out self-starters with proven ability to work with others. Mayor Schreiber stated that 2020 members with expertise in particular areas that might help the city should feel free to offer assistance to the City on projects identified during the 2020 Task Force process.

Kevin Hill asked for clarification of the process for reporting to city council and possibly proposing an idea or project we come up with. Mayor Schreiber pointed out that the reporting procedure was built into the resolution by asking the committee for quarterly reports. These are opportunities to present our ideas and ask for input from council and other city officials. We can present long term goals, short term goals and actions, and recommendations to achieve a better outlook for Ypsilanti.

Kent Baumkel requested clarification of 2020 Task Force responsibilities. Are we to report regularly and provide a final list of recommendations and suggestions for implementation to City Council? Are we to simply report and present recommendations for action - or are we to act on some items ourselves via appropriate channels (e.g., meeting with City departments and other organizations, making presentations and submitting action resolutions to City Council to proceed

on items?) Mayor Schreiber replied that Council does expect final recommendations, but that there might also be some things that we could do ourselves, or that we could enlist volunteer help from other organizations or individuals to help us carry out.

We wondered if Ypsilanti is currently pursuing areas of regional cooperation. Mayor Schreiber replied that we were involved in several things including the Wayne/Washtenaw county project called the Aerotropolis to develop the businesses and cities surrounding Metro and Willow Run airports. These meetings are being attended by City Planner Karen Hart. The county is also launching a project outlined by County Planner Tony Vanderwort to redevelop the Washtenaw Avenue corridor between Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor and to create housing that is more affordable than most of Ann Arbor provides for working people (Google employees for example).

US Department of Commerce Economic Development Assistance (EDA) Investment Grants. UM recently received an EDA grant for a regional, tri-state project to assist communities impacted by changes in the auto industry. UM contacted Mayor Schreiber prior to 2020's first meeting to inform him of the regional project and ask about its fit with 2020 Task Force goals. The Mayor arranged a brief phone conference with UM and available 2020 representatives (Gary and Kent) to discuss the project. That phone conference ended with consensus that a UM presentation to all 2020 members would be ideal once the Task Force had held its first few meetings. The Mayor indicated that UM is available to make a presentation to 2020 members upon request. Nat Edmunds noted that at a Chamber of Commerce dinner she attended, U of M president Mary Sue Coleman urged Ypsilanti to start working with the University of Michigan. President Coleman mentioned several organizations that offer volunteer consulting help by advanced students in areas of their expertise, i.e. architecture, city planning etc. 2020 members agreed to ask UM to make its presentation soon. Mayor Schreiber will work with Gary and UM to arrange it. Kent noted that, in addition to learning about and interfacing with UM on the regional project, Ypsilanti itself is eligible to apply for 1-5 EDA Investment Grants to help meet additional Ypsilanti-specific needs, if it so chooses.

Are we active with the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti SmartZone? Council member John Gawlas is a member of this and represents our interests there. Is SPARK opening a small business assistance office in Ypsilanti? Mayor Schreiber said we are trying to pull them in that direction. Mark Maynard wondered if SPARK, an economic development group charged with doing all the economic development in Washtenaw County, was sufficiently aware of the potential of the Water Street location for businesses that might call there. He said that, in his experience we were pretty low on their list and wondered how we might get moved a bit higher up on their list of priorities. Mayor Schreiber said that one way to do this was to make sure we had representation on their committees. He stated that he found every opportunity he could to say that "Ypsilanti is an affordable urban alternative to Ann Arbor." It was pointed out that our group had been sent several emails with information about the SmartZone and SPARK.

Mark Maynard wanted to know how we might insinuate ourselves into the selection process for a new EMU president. Mayor Schreiber said he would be talking to some of the regents and encouraging them to meet with local residents. Deborah Strong pointed out that most of the regents are not local and none are Ypsilanti residents. She said that there appears to be little connection between EMU and Ypsilanti and yet the university sits right in the middle of the city. MSU had citizen involvement in the university president selection process and we might want to look into how they did it. Our task force hopes the city would be proactive in approaching EMU. Kevin Hill said that there were a few outreach efforts already occurring in other areas like the downtown parking structure.

At this point, Mayor Schreiber had to leave for another meeting and excused himself.

Next, under "Old Business", the chairperson made available a copy of the "Open Meetings Act" and the rules of "Parliamentary Procedure" for participants to access. Copies can be obtained at the City Clerk's office. Mr. Clark also reminded members that they

should take the Oath of Office at the City Clerk's office as soon as possible. The quarterly reports required by city council need to be thought out by members so we can consider how we would want to do this report. If we had a regular chairperson, that person could have preparing this report as part of their responsibilities.

Our next agenda item was sharing our ideas for future directions for the city.

Kevin Hill's presentation focused on continuing the improvement and development of downtown Ypsilanti.

He started out by discussing the concept of "Building a Community of Ideas".

1. Cultivate and reward creativity.
2. Invest in the creative ecosystem.
3. Embrace diversity.
4. Nurture the creative.
5. Value risk-taking
6. Be authentic.
7. Invest in and build on quality of place.
8. Remove barriers to creativity.
9. Take responsibility for change in your community.
10. Ensure that every person has the right to creativity.

Mr. Hill discussed the DDA, what it is, and what it is supposed to do. Further information on this is available at <http://www.legislature.mi.gov>.

There was an inventory of downtown businesses Kevin had compiled.

Kevin included a membership form to the Downtown Association of Ypsilanti. He also included a list of efforts from the Downtown Association of Ypsilanti called "Transforming Downtown Ypsilanti into "The Place" to Live and be in Business".

1. Parking improvements.
2. Linking city groups and associations electronically.
3. Continue to foster relationships with the county including BIS, Wireless Washtenaw, Inventory of Businesses and Getting to Know Your Neighbors.
4. The Crossroads Music Festival (sponsored by DAY) with more input from some merchants than others as stated by Mr. Hill.
5. The Halloween Fall Festival
6. Discussions with EMU about the use of the EMU downtown parking structure.
7. Modifying Mich. Ave. Median.

There was a list of initiatives that "DAY" would like to see.

1. Tax Credit Trade-offs for building improvements.
2. Review "Opening or Relocating a Business in Ypsilanti" sheet.
3. "Get to Know Ypsi" Day
4. Create "Internet Business Zone".
5. Review downtown zoning.
6. "Downtown Ypsilanti Building Revitalization Program".
7. Ypsilanti as a "Green City".
8. Partner with the Michigan Next Energy Authority.
9. Apply to become the 4th Michigan "Clean City".
10. Neighborhood Associations to perform city functions for Property Tax Relief.

There was discussion about the viability of building a stadium as an anchor to the Water Street Development. Regardless of the plans for this site or who proposes them, perhaps it is best to move beyond the original concept and refuse to engage in counterproductive back talk and divisive rhetoric. There was also discussion about the possibility of utilizing State or Federal grants to create a "Green Stadium" for practical as well as marketing purposes.

Mr. Hill also included an information sheet about the Michigan Renewable Fuels Commission, and also presented the forms for a facade improvement program from Kalamazoo. Nat Edmunds pointed out that Ypsilanti already has such a program, and Mr. Hill said he knew this and had discussed it with Mr. Vossberg of the DDA in an effort to revitalize the Ypsilanti program. Mr. Hill was also directed to the Historic District Commission by Ms. Edmunds for more information.

Ms. Edmunds stated that she was interested in finding out what our DDA is doing. Mr. Hill directed people to the DDA annual report which could be obtained from Mr. Vosburg. Mark Maynard asked what was the area covered by the DDA? The area as reported was Hamilton and Farris and Huron and Pearl. Ms. Baumkel noted that Ypsilanti has two distinctly separate DDA's (the Depot Town and Downtown Development Authorities) and that this seemed like a duplication of effort. She asked if the two DDA's worked together and if they might be combined to create a single authority. Kevin reported that Mr. Vosburg attends both meetings and the Depot Town Association meetings as well. According to Mr. Hill he is the person in charge of both DDAs." Does he have a staff? "Perhaps grant funded interns", was the reply. Ms. Edmunds stated that since it seems that both groups are working for the same thing, they should both be working directly with Mr. Vosburg. Mr. Hill said they were, "...but in all honesty it would probably be best to say that,we scheduled our meetings the day before the DDA meetings so we can look at their agenda because sometimes the DDA decisions are...their...over the years there has been some distance between the two, we're working to close that gap a little bit so there's maybe a little more involvement by everybody so we can all get on the same page which has sometimes not necessarily been true. But we are working on that."

Ms. Baumkel asked if either of the DDAs had websites which were connected to the city? Someone from the audience gave an out of order response solicited by Mr. Hill, (a person who works with DAY) that "...yes there is one website, it is DDA.com, or DDA.org, or DDA.gov....." Nat Edmunds said that she had looked carefully at the DDA website because her opinion was that we could list a lot more detail about each Ypsilanti building to make it more appealing to people who might be looking for property here. Mark Maynard said that he was part of a group that tried to do a comprehensive analysis of each building. He said that sort of information might also be helpful to SPARK. He also suggested that it would also be a good idea to bring SPARK personnel to Ypsilanti and walk them around so they can have a first-hand knowledge of what we have to offer, to do a better job of marketing ourselves." We all agree (including the mayor) that we need more representation on SPARK and need to push them to get over here and open an office. Mr. Hill reported that County Commissioners Peterson and Swartz were working on that also.

Ms. Baumkel suggested that we might ask the DDA about the feasibility of providing a web-based visual "Virtual Tour" option for Ypsilanti sale properties through their website (if not too costly). She also mentioned a new form of curbside, audio tour she'd heard realtors in other states have been using – where the "For Sale" sign lists a phone number or radio station that the car's occupants contact/tune-in to which provides a detailed, pre-recorded description of the sale property's features.

Next to speak was Gary Clark for **Lisa Bashert**. He outlined her ideas for a local currency, but would refer members to her online posting which she emailed to us and then formulate questions for her when she is present at our next meeting. She can also do her presentation then if she chooses. Our initial reaction was that her overall concept was well conceived and documented enabling us to conjecture that it might be a more long term goal. Mr. Maynard proposed some questions about counterfeiting, and bank sponsorship of the currency and the group discussed local debit cards.

Kent Baumkel spoke next, recapping her research on the Ann-Arbor-Ypsilanti SMART ZONE, IT ZONE and SPARK projects as requested by Mark Maynard and e-mailed to all 2020 members 7/15/07. In 2001, Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti signed a 17-year mutual agreement to create a SMART ZONE for capturing research at EMU and U of M for commercialization (2001-2018). The A2-Ypsi SMART ZONE project receives funding from the Michigan Development

Corporation. The City of Ann Arbor's website, under the Financial Administration button contains all SMART ZONE project information. Included is a TIF document describing the SMART ZONE 17-year agreement and a detailed long-term project plan. It mentions creation of an independent "accelerator" entity ("SPARK" became that accelerator). The IT ZONE, in place before the SMART ZONE project and one of the SMART ZONE partners, is now merging with SPARK to provide services for businesses and entrepreneurs in Washtenaw County. Please review SPARK's website for more information on this merger and SPARK's countywide services. 2020 members agreed that we needed to be very proactive in fostering collaboration with SPARK.

Kent then presented two ideas for 2020 consideration concerning grant opportunities:

1. City purchase and use of eCivis, a web-based grants locator system for federal and foundation grants:

Kent sent case study information on how this service has been utilized by other communities to 2020 members via e-mail (7/15/07 Subj: 2020 TF – Ideas). Cost is based on municipal population served and number of user licenses, or "seats." She proposed the basic annual City-only service to start (three City users with unique passwords.) Designated users would access grant opportunities and forward them within the City and to Community Partners (i.e., Ypsi DDA's and groups like the Friends of the Freighthouse, Pool, etc.). Additional annual subscription options: unlimited City-only user subscription or unlimited City + Community Partner user subscription. As there have been some instances where Cities have been unable to sustain funding the full cost of successive annual subscriptions for unlimited City + Community Partners use, she suggests obtaining detailed pricing on each option for Ypsilanti and pursuing an initially conservative approach. Mark Maynard suggested that non-profits might do fundraising to finance the cost of the yearly subscription fee for eCivis and avoid having to use City funding since there is so little of it. Task Force members expressed interest in the eCivis service and requested that Kent contact eCivis to obtain detailed pricing information and quotes to present at our next meeting. 2020 members all agreed that pursuing one of the eCivis subscription options would be an immediate 2020 action step once we have the necessary cost information.

2. Review and consideration of US Department of Commerce Economic Development Assistance (EDA) Investment Grants:

Kent sent EDA Program information, EDA's five Investment Grants menu, and descriptions of EDA-funded local and regional projects (UM project listed as a regional project) to 2020 members via e-mail (7/15/07 Subj: 2020 TF – Ideas). She mentioned that many communities like Ypsilanti have been applying for and receiving EDA funding for a variety of local and regional economic development projects and she encouraged 2020 members to review the EDA information with an eye toward fit between the five grant types and Ypsilanti-specific needs for possible future discussion. Grant funding for Ypsilanti-specific EDA funded projects would not compete with UM's regional EDA grant project. As an example, Kent referenced the Sunday July 8, 2007 A2 News article entitled "Water St: What Happened?" mentioning the City's loan and interest obligations which are placing a burden on the City's general fund. She suggested using those dollars spent as matching funds to leverage a comprehensive EDA grant (s) funding package to move an updated/revised version of this development project forward. She then outlined the five types of grants, how the agency would work with us, and asked us all to review the website at www.eda.gov/abouteda/abteda.xml. Kent committed to explore this option for the City and for our Task Force following 2020 member review of the EDA Grant Program and further discussion of this idea.

Although **Mark Maynard** had "...already told my big ideas", he agreed to "...rehash" them for us at this time. He started by going over the idea he had previously discussed with the mayor about being more proactive with SPARK by bringing them to Ypsilanti for marketing purposes. Mr. Maynard agreed to peruse this himself with the possible volunteer contribution of a local eatery which might provide a lunch for the "tourists" He said he would contact Mike Finney. He then discussed his wish to obtain a one page document from the Planning Department describing exactly what Water Street is and what it offers and distribute them appropriately. Deborah Strong supported this concept and added that she felt we needed to be "...planful" in the approach and

be sure to put "...our best foot forward." Mr. Maynard agreed and added that we also need to decide what sort of business we wish to attract and that we have not "...had that discussion yet." He committed to finding out what information is presently given out.

Mark then reiterated that he felt strongly that the city should be very involved in the EMU search for a president and it appeared that the majority of the task force agreed with this as we had when this was discussed with Mayor Schreiber. A packet was suggested that might detail what we hoped for in a president and how we would like, as a city, to interact with the person selected and with EMU as a whole.

Mark told about his meeting with small business owners and their opinions, positive and negative, about having a business downtown. He said he would like to write a synopsis of their opinions and bring them to our group instead of having them come as speakers. Kevin interjected that the DAY group was going to solicit opinions about what they wanted to see downtown. Mark welcomed the information into his future report.

Mr. Maynard mentioned a past program called "Buy Cards" that EMU students used to have on a card to use at Ypsilanti businesses. Although he was not sure of the current status of the program, he agreed to do the necessary research to find out.

There was a brief discussion of the cities current financial circumstances, image issues, looming future negative influences on our financial standing, and the effect on citizens and potential citizens and business owners.

Deborah Strong was next and she started by saying that she would email links to task force members including the Michigan Township Association website which has a report from the governor for issues which would help to frame our situation and descriptions of how some other communities are dealing with the realities we face in cities similar to ours. A new business tax has just been signed into law and has some new features which will affect us. She said "I think we need to track what is happening in Lansing and try to influence what is happening" because they are still putting together the pieces which show our realities and the amount of money which is going to be available. There is no single thing which is causing the unfortunate financial circumstances, rather a confluence of factors, some of which were difficult to predict.

An idea Deborah said she liked would be a children's film festival similar to one they have in East Lansing. This is their eighth year and it brings a lot of kids and families into the city. They have films made **by** children and young adults as well as films made **for** kids and young adults. This is a way to work with the universities, both EMU and U of M, the libraries, the schools, etc. In addition to the films, they have workshops that teach kids to be critics, and to find out more about other jobs in the industry. We could use various places to screen the films i.e. the Dreamland theatre, school auditoriums, the libraries, various places at EMU. Gary Clark pointed out that there is a film festival in Saugatuck that utilizes any local building that has seating and can fit a screen throughout the entire city. Mark pointed out that Top of the Park in Ann Arbor is popular, but by the time you can show a film outdoors it is too late for the kids. He also said that the success of the Ann Arbor Art Fair led to the creation of the Shadow Art Fair here in Ypsilanti, but for a younger audience. Spinning it a bit and focusing it to children, like the proposed film festival, makes it unique and Ypsilanti can own it. Nat said we should talk to Karen Maurer about this because she is a video camera artist and she might be able to help out. Kevin mentioned that on Thursday nights throughout the summer Bombidill's is showing movies on the outside wall of their building from the park next to the downtown library. Gary mentioned that things like this are good for young adults because it gives them something they can do since, as Nicole mentioned last time, there is not a lot for young people to do in Ypsilanti. Kent mentioned that we might connect with the Ann Arbor Film Festival in some way. This writer remembers that the library has a story-telling program which, if combined with a film about the story told, might be interesting and instructional.

Deborah also mentioned House Bill 2780 the Township Services Consolidation Act. It proposed to shift all tax collection, election functions and assessing, from Township control to county control. It required Townships to reimburse counties for the shifted services, although it does not impact cities or villages. If approved, it would go into effect on December 31, 2008. This is just to illustrate that there is a push to regionalize functions including things like school districts, ISDs and other things state wide.

Nat Edmunds spoke next. She had compiled packets for each of the members which contained information from most of the various organizations that already exist in the city. She mentioned that there has sometimes been confusion about what all these organizations do, and how they interact. She said it was her feeling that most of these organizations did great things, but that most of them were also not well advertised. She said the Visitor and Convention Bureau does a good job with limited resources and recommended that we visit and tour their website. "They have a fantastic website", she said, "their house tour, their walking tour is just fabulous." It is a tour of EMU, the Ypsilanti Historic District and a small tour of the cemetery. "these are our assets" she stated and they are not well advertised. She said that among other things, the website and these informational items detail one of our greatest assets...our history. She mentioned that the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce 2007 Business Guide could be required reading for our task force to see who the members are and what they do etc. She provided the Depot town Rag, The Community Resource Guide and various other resources including CoPac guide which provided a lot of information about our Neighborhood associations and meeting times.

Nat said she went to the Washtenaw County Department of Planning, Environment and Historic Preservation Program said they had published 4 little guides. Nat stated that we were underrepresented to say the least, even in the area of historic preservation. They had a Department of Interior grant to do this there was not a mention of Depot Town our Historic District (the second largest in Michigan) or anything. "So I called them" she said. The person there will call her back and she said she intends to ask some questions about our under representation. "Then I went to the Michigan Tourist Center website, a part of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation." I looked up Ypsilanti and the response was that there was currently no information about our city. "Well that's terrible" she said, "if they have tours throughout the state of Michigan and they have nothing about Ypsilanti." The task force felt that this might be one of the times that we would take the initiative to improve our visibility ourselves. Nat replied that perhaps we should inform groups like the Heritage Foundation and use them to help us do our work, i.e. following up with these resource groups and finding out why we are not listed, or getting us listed, or writing the stuff and giving it to them *to make sure* we are listed. Mr. Clark pointed out that we all bring different things to the table and one of the things that Nat brings is knowledge of, and history with, the various local organizations. She knows the players and who to go to for answers and action. Nat replied that this was true and also that although the various groups may be doing the type of advertising they traditionally do, they may not be reaching out as widely as they might, or using the tools provided by the internet. If we could send our information to the state, like the "Museums of Ypsilanti" brochure for example, they could distribute it to the state travel sites.

"One thing I was really offended by was the Wikipedia website", Nat said. "All they talk about is murder, marijuana and chaos in Ypsilanti." Wikipedia was explained to the group and how to change what it said about us was also detailed.

Next to speak was **Gary Clark**. He started by holding up an "Other Voices" article from the Sunday May 20, 2007 Ann Arbor News entitled "Ypsilanti Should Go Green: Environmental 'green collar' jobs would be a good fit." The article is by Susan Santone, Ypsilanti resident and the executive director of Creative Change Educational Solutions, an area non-profit focused on sustainability. Mr. Clark said he agreed with this idea and would like to see some exploration of the possibilities that "green Collar" jobs might offer Ypsilanti. These jobs involve environmental products, services or rehabilitation, and are part of a growing economic sector that includes renewable energy, alternative energy, alternative transportation and brown fields redevelopment.

Green collar jobs range from wind turbine manufacturing and clean technology to environmentally friendly home remodeling. Ypsilanti has the empty buildings and open spaces for such enterprises as well as a manufacturing history. This would provide an opportunity for EMU, local schools, The DDAs and community groups to unite around a common theme which would help us all city-wide. Grants from both state and federal sources are available and building "Green" housing and providing "Green" jobs also provides a marketing niche which we as a city can build on.

Mr. Clark mentioned Dave Strenski, Ypsilanti resident and a "green" advocate and "...local guru", who had emailed information from "Solar Today". He had suggestions concerning businesses which we could bring to Ypsilanti, most of which were similar to the ones mentioned in the A2 News "other Voices" article. The information sent by Mr. Strenski outlined some of the financial advantage and job creation possibilities of going green. Something Mr. Clark suggested we could do to support this concept which is immediate would be to go to www.pledgebank.com/ypsiosolar and sign up to pledge a certain amount to provide matching funds go toward placing solar panels on the south side of city hall. It would be a visible symbol of our commitment to the idea of green and clean technology. It can be seen as people enter our town. He suggested that people go to the website look at Mr. Strenski's design and the other things that are there and make your own decision. You don't have to give any money until we get enough people. Mr. Strenski has had previous experience with solar design and implementation that we can view by going to the Ypsilanti Food Co-op where he has installed a solar energy system. Deborah Strong said she has seen this "Green City" idea in other cities farther west like Aspen. Mr. Hill said he believed that there will be a proposal made at city council about joining the "Green Cities Initiative". Much to others amusement Mr. Clark said he would certainly support such an idea. Gary also recommended that Mr. Strenski be a future guest of our committee.

Moving to his second idea, Gary then held up a tee shirt with the saying "Keep Ypsilanti Real...Buy Local First" which was purchased at the Ypsilanti Food Co-op. "I really believe in this effort", he said, "This can be an immediate, short term and achievable effort." He went on to say that he was made a believer by his partner and found this to be easier to accomplish, even for someone who never purchased anything in Ypsilanti (like himself), than he thought. It took a little effort to see what was available, but supporting our local businesses helps to keep the money in our town.

To give life to the idea, Mr. Clark suggested that as a start we find out the number of households in the city, and have the Ypsilanti Area Chamber of Commerce 2007 Business Directory delivered to each household using the feet of the nearest neighborhood association. We would enclose a letter which talks about the "Buy Local First" initiative and about local sustainability. Mr. Clark made a commitment to follow up on this idea.

Mark Maynard remembered that last holiday season a group made up a list of places where people could buy presents and a number of people, including Mayor Schreiber, made commitments to do all their holiday shopping locally. He said he would make the list available to Mr. Clark. Lisa Dougdale who runs Think Local First, originally an Ann Arbor entity, has been reaching out to Ypsilanti and now several businesses here have become members of that network. Mr. Clark and Mr. Maynard will meet in the future to share ideas about this initiative.

It was moved and seconded that, because of time constraints; we table the remaining agenda items and move them to our next meeting. We voted unanimously to table these items.

Mr. Clark suggested that we empower ourselves to move forward with tasks that we feel we can accomplish, and "...just do it." The people who were not available to present their ideas tonight can do so next week. Deborah Strong reminded us that we had previously agreed that after we have heard all the ideas from our members, we would go back and prioritize them. We all concurred again that this was a necessary task for our force (-:).

Our next meeting is Monday August 6 at the Haab Building on Huron street. Deborah Strong moved that we adjourn and Kevin Hill seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Minutes submitted by Gary Clark.