



AGENDA AND MEETING NOTES

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES ACTION TEAM

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES GROUP MEETING

December 7, 2016, 4 – 5 PM

Minnesota Discovery Center
Mineland Reclamation Classroom
1003 Discovery Drive, Chisholm, MN

Recharge the Range Livable Communities Action Team Mission: *To encourage positive change on the Iron Range by working collaboratively towards more livable and vibrant communities*

Goals:

- 1) *Network – Generate social capital and connections. Work together across communities and initiatives to bring change to the Range.*
- 2) *Share Best Practices – Build on the successes of existing initiatives. Livable Initiative Groups share successes and challenges to help move projects forward.*
- 3) *Plan – Connect RAMS, IRRRB, ReGen and other key public, non-profit and private stakeholders to support new initiatives and funding for vibrant communities priorities.*
- 4) *Action – Facilitate Initiative Groups efforts to achieve measurable successes in our communities*

CREATIVE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES MEETING OBJECTIVES

- 1) Discuss how the Livable Communities Mission and Goals apply to the Creative Communities subgroup
- 2) Identify group and local initiatives and begin a network of resources to assist them
- 3) Set the next meeting date, time, location and host. Identify ways to invite new members.

PROPOSED AGENDA:

4:00	Introductions	
4:05	Revisit Mission/Goals of Livable Communities	
4:10	Review group initiatives from 10/10/2016 Livable Communities meeting, and Brainstorm about local initiatives represented by group members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform Cool & Creative Attendees about the group • Create a reference of resources for art funding • Regional education on the economic and social value of arts in communities • Facilitate a regional Arts Forum
4:40	Expand Networks - Connect people/resources to initiatives	
4:55	Schedule next meeting and critique	
5:00	Adjourn to Livable Communities meeting	

Weather contributed to low attendance. Present were:

Mary McReynolds

Tammy Mattonen

Sarah Ferkul

Larry Killien

Sonya Merild contributed thoughts for discussion prior to the meeting. We began with those to open the discussion.

- How can we support the arts community moving forward?
 - o This is the major purpose of the Creative Community group at this time.
- Can we find a means to co-sponsor an updated study about the effect of the creative community and the arts on Iron Range economic development?
 - o Include a list of current arts organizations and funding resources
 - o Include current research references
 - o Include accepted best practices for similar areas of the country (Minnesota Council of Non-Profits has something similar we may be able to use)
 - o Tammy will begin to create a reference library of current area arts organizations, artists and available funding for the arts
- Create a means to encourage communities across the Range to consider creating Arts and Culture commissions that function as an avenue for citizens to inform their respective City Councils about the value of community arts. Use the City of Grand Rapids model and how that led to a City-wide arts and culture plan, which then serves to attract funding and now may spur the city to allocate 1-2% of all publicly funded projects (including roads and streets) towards developing public art in the affected neighborhoods.
 - o This will be discussed more at a future meeting.
- How can we create opportunities for area artists and organizations to get together to re-energize and spur new ideas?
 - o Encourage area artists and arts organizations to attend the Rural Arts and Culture Summit at the U of M-Morris Center for Small Towns. Connect to scholarship opportunities through the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council.
- How can we get better at getting the collective word out about the vibrant creative opportunities already here on the Range?
 - o It's important to reach local, regional and tourism audiences (audience development)
 - o Finding ways to map what's here
 - o Using area calendars – possibly focus on the Mesabi Tourism Board events calendar then put link to that calendar on our web sites.
 - o Can we do a ½ day conference on how to get the word out and reach across the other Recharge the Range action teams to do this collectively? (Tourism, jobs, etc.)
 - o Encourage local Chambers to put an 'Arts' tab on their websites.

Next meeting sometime in January. Mary will send out note to find a date/time/location.