NEWBERRY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING**

 MINUTES OF WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2019 MEETING

PLEDGE OF ALLEGANCE – Led by Brian Fisher

ROLL CALL- Present: Brian, Paul, Karen, Vickie, Chief Rogers, Jack. Absent: Mike (Medical)

MEETING RECORDING(S) – We are recording the meeting. Available from Jack (just ask)

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – Paul Deel requested a Closed Session re: possible property purchase. Vickie mentions that we can’t do a Closed Session because it’s not on the agenda. We can discuss as a follow on to Karen’s agenda item. Brief discussion of the “blind trust” process to purchase property.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 4 MEETING – Moved by Karen, 2nd by Paul. Approved Unanimously.

BRIEF REVIEW OF IDEAS SUGGESTED AT SEPTEMBER 4 MEETING – The main issues were Fire Protection, Water (related to Fire), Home Insurance rates, Civic Hub Law Enforcement.

KAREN GRAY LEVELING DISCUSSION –

* Predicated on work the County did to begin a Community Plan.
* Several sessions re: vision, goals, strategic direction, water conservation ordinance, SWOT, public safety beginning Jan 2018.
* Community prioritized using sticky dots on focus areas.
* The County seemed primarily interested in promoting economic development.
* Charts reflect raw data ONLY regarding the priority interest areas of the community.
* Our low population level and large land area make it more challenging to obtain assistance relative to higher, more concentrated population areas which will get higher priority. In other words, the lower the population, the lower the priority from the County.
* In a major emergency when resources are scarce, we’ll be on our own.
* The Fire Department faces the challenges of large area, low revenue and few human resources.
* Stable economy based on economic development, eco-tourism and Route 66 tourism.
* Establish a farmer’s market supplied by local farmers.
* Develop an airport use plan that includes industrial development.
* Establish a grant-writing team.
* Bring community organizations together.
* Infrastructure improvements including Harvard Road river crossing, building a grade crossing at Fort Cady Road, improving broadband Internet service. This would probably necessitate the improvement of Fairview Rd.
* Next – Identify responsibilities, have action plan, identify resources, allocate resources, develop programs.
* We do not have a professional staff. How are we going to get folks to work together? We need to be careful and specific (set expectations properly) and prioritize carefully so we can pursue realistic goals. We need to eat the elephant in small bites.
* We can also set specific timelines as long as they are realistic.
* Karen will work on getting her online Microsoft Sharepoint website/survey tool up and available.

REVIEW OF CAL-POLY URBAN PLANNING CLASS PAPER

* First main point was a “civic hub” area near the center of Newberry
* Second main point was a “Route 66 Village” area.

FURTHER DISCUSSION

* County Land Use Services will not support a Newberry Community Plan. They now insist on having a Champion with an issue before they will help us.
* The County appears to “slow-roll” rural initiatives.
* Grants discussion.
* Possible land purchase discussion. Forward information to CSD Board.