

MEETING REPORT

Meeting Location:	Mahaffie Stagecoach Stop & Farm
	Olathe, KS
To:	
By:	Cheryl Hargrove and Frank Martin

Meeting Date:	March 13, 2008
Task No.:	
Phase No.:	
Start Time:	10:00 a.m.
End Time:	12:00 p.m.

Attendees:

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This report, if not modified within seven (7) days after receipt by the Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area Steering Committee, shall be acknowledged as an accurate report of the events that took place at this meeting.

Meeting Context:	General Management Plan, Phase 1, Visioning Foundation Statement
Meeting Purpose/ Intended Results:	Vision and Mission Definition

Meeting Notes

After an overall introduction defining the meaning of "Vision" and "Mission," the large group of 104 broke into four small groups, each with a facilitator. With its focus on developing descriptors from which to craft a Vision and Mission statement for FFNHA, small group facilitators in Meeting 1 read the following assignment statements.

For the morning session on Vision, the assignment given was: "How would you like the FFNHA region to function, live, embrace history and ecology, express its history and draw people in 2028?"

The Vision small group session encouraged participants to think beyond the framework of FFNHA to consider the entire region and the kind of quality of life that they would like to see there in 20 years. The mission session was more pragmatic, asking the group to comment on how the Vision can be achieved and the role the FFNHA might play in building that Vision.

In the Vision session, participants were shown a flip chart that included eight descriptor phrases that reflect findings from earlier public input. They served as models of what descriptors could be and the range of topics that they can explore ranging from tourism to regional economy and local pride.

Participants were then asked to write down on an index card their "three favorite places in their county" and three leading adjectives that they would like to include in the Vision. Participants then each shared what they wrote. We used this technique to encourage less outspoken people to share their thoughts at the outset. We then held an open discussion about phrases and descriptors to consider. Participation in all four small groups was broad and active and the comments made reflected the just completed index card exercise.

After 30 minutes of conversation, the facilitator then asked each member "vote" for the recorded descriptors written on the flipchart based on the group dialogue. Each participant had eight blue adhesive dots, and they voted for their favorites using one dot per phrase.

The results of this nominal group discussion and voting are collected in the Visioning Report. In order to interpret the raw results, the planning team created a content analysis of the descriptors, clustering them into categories. Similar descriptors from the different small groups were clustered and given a subtotal.

Results from all of these exercises are contained in the Visioning section of the Phase 1 Report posted on the FFNHA Management Plan website.