

Village of Balsam Lake
Smart Growth Committee
Monday November 11, 2013 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Meeting called to order by Jeff Reed.

Members present: Jeff Reed, Caroline Rediske, Chris Sondrol.
Volunteer Members present: Karen Aubin, Steve Healy, Holly Helms, Chris Nelson, Roger Kiemele
Others present: Bob Kazmierski, Linda Shober

Smart Growth Committee Strategic Action Plan Review and Revision, Part Two.

Under the direction of Bob Kazmierski, Community Resource Agent, Polk County UW Extension the top 6 issues that were identified at the last meeting will be discussed. The top 6 issues are:

1. What can we do to secure the Anderson property and beach?
2. How can we build support for Village Administrator?
3. How do we develop a downtown revitalization plan?
4. How do we get visitors/Polk County residents to spend more money/time in Balsam Lake?
5. How can we get more capital invested in Balsam Lake?
6. How do we update existing campground and trail network?

Practical initiatives and action steps to address each of the six issues were discussed amongst the group.

Issue 1: Develop a team to approach owners of the property, meet with the family, get an appraisal done on the property, look into financing, determine possible use of the property, secure general donations or grants, agree on a purchase price and draw up a purchase agreement.

Issue 2: Show a cost benefit for position, professional managing would allow younger citizens to run as there would be less duties for the Village board, look at other communities who have hired an administrator, meet with the Village attorney, prepare an official statement stating the benefits of an administrator, possible part time hours, build support from organizations for an administrator.

Issue 3: Hire an administrator, prioritize desired initiative with Village Board, Balsam Lake Chamber and others from the community, strategic action plan identifies the needs.

Issue 4: Need more shops to open, network with the artistic community, buy local campaign, a motel/convention center needs to be built.

Issue 5 & 6 were written down and given to Bob Kazmierski to include in his summary of the meeting.

Members and volunteers broke into groups of two to write goal statements and a timeline for action for each of the six issues. Bob Kazmierski will include these statements and timelines into his summary.

A summary of the meeting will be given by Bob Kazmierski at the next committee meeting in December.

Lori Duncan, Village Clerk Treasurer