

## MINUTES

Community Improvement Action Team  
Tuesday, February 26, 2013 – 3:00 P.M.  
City Hall – Lower Level Conference Room

**Members Present:** Steve Boka, Gary Carlson, Rich Dwyer, Sarah Lande, Ann Meeker, and Tom Spread

**Members Absent:** Melanie Alexander, John Beckey, Brenda Christensen, Rochelle Conway, Mayor Hopkins, Richard Klimes, Laura Liegois, and Bill Phelan.

**Guests Present:** Erin Dindinger, Andrew Fangman, Patti Fuller-Bloechl, Greg Jenkins, and Mary Odell

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

*Motion to approve minutes of the January 22, 2013 regular meeting. Moved by Lande. Second by Spread. All ayes; motion carries.*

### Comments from Citizens

Dindinger stated she's met with Patti Fuller-Bloechl a few times and they are both very interested in doing some fundraising and volunteer work for a dog park. Lande stated Fangman has identified places in the city which could be used for a dog park and they are currently looking at costs. Fuller-Bloechl stated she spoke to Rich Klimes and he would like us to get a petition started, as well as, a list of people who will help with the dog park once established. Lande stated they would like to organize a dog park committee and would love to welcome Dindinger and Fuller-Bloechl to the team.

### Comments from Mayor

None

### Blue Zones Update

Odell provided updates on the Blue Zones Project. Odell stated Muscatine was chosen as a blue zones site and our process starts now. We need to develop and finalize a blueprint for our community by August. Once the blueprint is finalized more community meetings will take place.

Odell distributed and discussed the Blue Zones Project Committee Member Recruitment hand out. Odell stated Muscatine will have three full time employees for the Blue Zones Project. The employees will be: Joni Axel (Program Manager), Sara Fitzer-Huston (Business Lead), and Andrew Anderson (Engagement Lead). There will be lots of opportunities for citizens to get involved as well.

### Comprehensive Plan Update

Fangman distributed the Community Appearance Goals and Implementation Strategies hand out. Carlson asked what the next step would be for the master plan. Boka stated we need to meet with the other focus groups involved to see where they're at. Once we've met we can create an inventory of what we have and go from there. Carlson stated we should add the comprehensive plan to the Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities.

**University of Iowa Sustainable Community Update**

Carlson stated Dwyer gave the Community Improvement Action Team's list to the University of Iowa and they've sent back an updated list. Dwyer stated the University of Iowa is committed to working on eight to ten projects with Muscatine. Carlson asked if that included the Blue Zones Projects. Dwyer stated the eight to ten projects would be in addition to the Blue Zones Projects. There will need to be one point of contact for each project. Nick Benson and Chuck Connerly will be available to attend our next meeting on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Carlson stated the committee should create a list of names to invite to the next meeting.

Bradley Bark  
Becky Each  
Rosa Mendoza  
Haydee King  
Joni Axel  
Dan Stein  
Sara Fitzer Huston  
Dave Cooney  
Betty Collins  
Nick Gow  
Andrea Scott  
Gregg Mandsager  
Jane Reischauer  
Janet Sichterman  
Andrew Anderson  
Tina Boldt  
Chuck Van Hecke  
Randy Hill  
Judy Holdorf  
Erin Dindinger  
Patti Fuller-Bloechl  
Jim Hayes  
Rich Hines  
John Sayles  
Toni Klaren  
Diane Campbell  
Cindy Carver  
Devon Pettit  
Mary Wildermuth  
Terry Eagle

**Action Team Reports**

- a. *Community Landscape*  
None
- b. *Community Trails*  
None
- c. *Downtown*  
None
- d. *Community Art*  
None
- e. *Cultural*  
None

**Other Business**

Carlson announced Dwyer as the new co chair of the Community Improvement Action Team.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 26, 2012, at 3:00 P.M.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Shaw  
Office Coordinator