

City of Decatur Commission Retreat
Brasstown Valley
February 2-3, 2017

In Attendance

Patricia Garrett
Fred Boykin
Scott Drake
Tony Powers

Brian Smith
Peggy Merriss
Andrea Arnold
Hugh Saxon

David Junger
Linda Harris
Lyn Menne
Bryan Downs

The key objectives of this retreat were to:

- Continue to get to know each other by understanding each person's strengths using the Strengthfinders® 2.0 Assessment.
- Review progress towards the vision and goals established at the 2016 Retreat.
- Identify current City of Decatur opportunities that this commission will address in 2017.

1. Strengthfinders 2.0®

The retreat began with all members getting to know each other better through the Strengthfinders 2.0. (see attached)

2. 2020 Vision for City of Decatur

The team review their 2020 Vision, created in 2016, to assess progress to date.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• More affordable housing• A new city park• System of bike lanes• Connected network of pedestrians• Balance construction mix• More public art• Reputation of tackling hard issues, of coming together• More downtown grocery options• City of Decatur and City Schools of Decatur working well | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• together – improved relationship• Taxes (86%/14%)• Thriving East Decatur mixed use community• A strong Dekalb County – good relationships with elected delegates• More engagement from wider cross section of the community• Achievement of annexation goals |
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3. 2016 Priorities Review

The team reviewed and updated progress towards 2016 Priorities (see attached)

4. **2017 Priorities**

The commission identified priorities and areas of interest to pursue in 2017

2017 Priorities - Next Steps/Actions	Timing
<p>City Commission’s Position on Federal Policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission will address each issue on a case by case basis. • Commission will communicate its position when asked. • Regarding current immigration policy, the City Commission’s position is as follows: <p><i>We are restricted by the state of Georgia from declaring or adopting the City of Decatur as a “Sanctuary City.”</i></p> <p><i>With input from the community, we have adopted a Welcoming America resolution and a Compassionate City resolution. In addition, we have a Better Together Advisory Board.</i></p>	On going
<p>Larger lots being sub-divided</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing conforming lot policy/practices and provide the City Commission with options for future consideration. 	Q3 2017
<p>Green Space Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing options and determine feasibility to meet the City’s needs. 	Q1-Q4 2017
<p>Tree Ordinance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Commission to review the tree ordinance goals and assess effectiveness of existing ordinance to date. • Schedule work session with staff for update. 	Q2 2017
<p>Downtown Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Update provided by Lyn Menne</i> 	n/a
<p>Impact Fees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant working on study. 	Q1
<p>United Methodist Children’s Home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayor Garrett provided update report.</i> 	n/a
<p>Annexation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information being developed in conjunction with City Schools of Decatur. • Plan joint work session with CSD for an update 	April 2017
<p>CSD Schools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City commissioners will reach out to CSD board members to continue strengthening relationships. 	On going

2017 Priorities - Next Steps/Actions	Timing
Decatur PATH Connectivity Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Present Model Mile PATH implementation plan to the City Commission. 	March 2017
Complete Streets Communication Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Update provided by David Junger</i> Open position to be filled. Monthly update of project status to be posted on website. 	March 2017 February 2017
Strong Communications Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updating of website in process. Launching town hall concept with the commissioners. 	Ongoing March 2017
High Performance Building Standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and provide recommendation on effectiveness of current standards. Awaiting information from CSD referred to at the December 19, 2016 City Commission meeting regarding high performance building standard compliance assessment. 	March 2017
RS17 Zoning districts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schedule work session to discuss. 	May 2017
Traffic Calming Efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parking survey to assess parking patterns underway. Begin update of transportation plan. 	Q1 2017 Q2 2017

**2017 Commission Retreat City of Decatur
Strength Finders Dominant Domains**

Team Member	Department	Role	Dominant Domains	Top 5 Domains	Strengths 1-5
Peggy Merriss	City Manager's Office	City Manager	Executing Strategic Thinking	EERSS	Responsibility, Achiever, Relator, Input, Intellection
Andrea Arnold	Administrative Services	Asst City Manager	Relationship Building (3)	IRRRS	Maximizer, Relator, Developer, Individualization, Input
Hugh Saxon	City Manager's Office	Deputy City Manager	Executing Strategic Thinking	EESER	Arranger, Input, Responsibility, Learner, Positivity
David Junger	Public Works	Asst City Manager	Executing (3) Relationship Building	REERE	Relator, Responsibility, Restorative, Positivity, Belief
Lyn Menne	Community and Economic Development	Asst City Manager	Strategic Thinking (3)	SISSR	Strategic, Maximizer, Futuristic, Ideation, Connectedness
Linda Harris	Community and Economic Development	Chief of Civic Engagement, Education & Communication	Strategic Thinking (3)	SRISS	Strategic, Positivity, Maximizer, Futuristic, Ideation
Patti Garrett	Commission	Mayor	Executing Relationship Building	EIRER	Arranger, Maximizer, Connectedness, Responsibility, Positivity
Fred Boykin	Commission	Mayor Pro Tem	Executing (3) Strategic Thinking	SEESE	Learner, Achiever, Responsibility, Input, Focus
Scott Drake	Commission	Commissioner	Relationship Building	SEIRR	Context, Arranger, Communication, Harmony, Positivity
Tony Powers	Commission	Commissioner	Strategic Thinking (3)	SSSIE	Strategic, Learner, Ideation, Self-Assurance, Achiever
Brian Smith	Commission	Commissioner	Executing Relationship Building	ERIER	Consistency, Harmony, Woo, Discipline, Positivity
Bryan Downs	City Attorney	City Attorney	Executing (3)	ERESE	Responsibility, Relator, Belief, Analytical, Deliberative

2016 Priorities/Next Steps	Timing
Homestead Exemption	Q1 -2016
Annexation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to pursue annexation efforts 	Part 1 – Q1-Q2 2016 Part 2 – Q3-Q4 2016
Traffic Calming Efforts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patti Garrett, Tony Powers and Scott Drake to meet with GDOT on January 21st • David will provide list of accomplishments in preparation for this meeting 	Q1- Q3 2016
Better Together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better Together has been accepted, needs to be acknowledged. • Need to schedule for work session for commission to determine next course of action 	Q1 - 2016
Impact Fees	Q1- Q2 2016
Budgeting for Green Space	Q1- Q2 2016
Tree Ordinance Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow up on canopy assessment to be complete by January 31, 2016. Assess if it is meeting the desired goals and potential action needed • Educate community on ordinance 	Q1-2016
RS-17 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be reviewed by planning commission 	Q2 - 2016
Comprehensive Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no additional effort towards the Decatur Downtown Master plan outside of efforts on the Comprehensive Master Plan. • Lyn Menne will craft a response/verbiage regarding how issues of downtown master plan will be addressed. 	Q2 -Q3 2016
Working with City Schools of Decatur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patti Garrett to invite board chair and Superintendent Dr. Dude to State of the City address. • The DBA to invite Dr. Dude to speak at later time. Brain Smith will follow up on this. • Peggy Merriss to arrange formal joint work session with Dr. Dude and commissioners 	On-going