

Project Partners Meeting Notes: 7/8/09

1. 4th of July debrief

- we collected 11 stories - online on our community almanac site
- the stickers were a hit
- seemed to be a buzz

2. Camp plans

- the camp had to be cancelled, due to lack of registrations
- Barbara is still coming out and we're trying to make the most out of the week, by supporting an interview gathering week -
- Dahvi is working with Cari and Craig to come up with a group of old-timers to be interviewed
- Dahvi has found one local professional photographer and one videographer to come along
- Jeannette Bonner of the Valley Citizen is also interested in doing some interviewing
- We hope for a few of our volunteers to show up as well, to gather some good stories.
- Barbara is also offering a training to about 20 teachers in digital classroom tools, at which she will try to help them integrate Envision Victor into their curricula, and recruit kids to participate.

Ideas from the Partners

- perhaps we could work on developing a core curriculum for the schools that involves story gathering....
- Perhaps we start planning a Pierre's storytelling event, where we provide 4 -5 comfy chairs on stage and host a conversation between various members of the community with stories. We could record the session, and invite others to share stories as well... 4 people have a discussion about their stories about Victor, and then open the mic...
- Perhaps these follow different themes - coming to the Valley? Ag? Interesting

- to have stories from the 60s, 70s.... and now.... a generational series perhaps
- then story volunteers in the lobby, recruiting people to be interviewed at a later time....
 - offer free food..... and try to get the first panel to be people who have a base in the community that could draw people...
 - Verle could be one?
 - Perhaps have the first event be dedicated to people who were involved with the collapse of the dam.... hear first hand the story.... Jay Calderwood might be one.... This event could draw regional interest.... Maybe get reporters from Idaho Falls.... and the JH News and Guide.... Rexburg....
 - We could do this once per month....
 - Pierre's could show a film on the dam perhaps as well...
 - If we put this out to the storytelling group, we might get more involvement due to less pressure
 - Dahvi will talk to Barbara about that next week.... how do you promote and hook...

3. the work plan draft

- Dahvi introduces the timeline... and what we have learned from creating it.
- Partners discuss its utility and how to present it to the City Council
- Partners' suggestions:
 - group different tasks into chunks, so that all EV tasks are in the same part of the timeline....
 - put together a packet of zoomed in pages for each partner and city councilor, with one large master copy
 - make color differences more obvious
- This timeline will help Dahvi be clear about what her priorities are in her limited time. The City will be able to take responsibility for its tasks, and Dahvi hers... Then, if the City wants Dahvi to work on something, they will be able to see the possible trade-offs with her other commitments.

4. my presentation to City Council (which will take place Wednesday evening)

- Partners help Dahvi plan her presentation to Council

- Dahvi will follow the following outline:

1. Thank the Councilors for having her and apologize there has not been more involvement so far, explain that this will change

2. Introduce the EV project and its benefits to the city

- EV will help the city develop a citizen-based, values-based decision making process

- This project aims to help the city get better input and involvement from its citizens to strengthen and facilitate the work the city is trying to do.

- EV will set up an infrastructure that will perpetuate for years to come to make this process easier from here on out. We will produce a sense of the community's values and a framework for integrating them

3. EV is doing a lot of experimenting to figure out how to create this citizen-based, values-based decision making process, and we are figuring out what strategies work here, and which do not. We are planting many seeds, to see which ones take root and flower. VISIT ENVISIONVICTOR.COM - WHAT'S NEW - to read about all of these.

- Engagement:

- Citizen Committees:

- outreach

- big picture

- storytelling

- Action Projects:

- Pierre's Playhouse

- visual gateway design

- neighborhood emergency readiness

- local agriculture directory

- postcard competition

- Values through storytelling:

- Several interviewers and story circle facilitators trained

- doing a potluck story circle event tomorrow night
- collected stories at the 4th of July - <http://www.communityalmanac.org/victor-id>
- Pierre's playhouse story event idea
- trying to get kids involved
- plan to have values collected by the end of the year...

4. Timeline

- we have developed this draft of an overall timeline. This is critical because it helps us coordinate City planning schedules with EV products, while helping us define what is realistic within our limitations of time and \$
- it will help the City understand what EV is doing and how it will be involved, and it will help the City take best advantage of EV efforts
- because I am only at 20 hours per week, I need a refined schedule to focus my efforts. This will help me maximize my efficiency
- briefly guide city councilors through the timeline
- based on this timeline, it seems that I should focus my time now on collecting stories and values... these will feed everything else, and work directly into the City's planning efforts. This may mean slowing down some City planning projects in order to best integrate the input generated through EV.
- remember that EV is currently a 2-year project... though we are constantly thinking about how it's products may continue to live on beyond that time
- Because this is a City project, the City will have to make choices about how it wants to try to integrate EV principles and methods, but there are also trade-offs due to resource limitations. The council has to power and responsibility to communicate with Dahvi about what it wants from EV, and Dahvi has the power and responsibility to respond with a proposal of how to achieve that and what trade-offs that might require in other areas. The City must then choose how to employ EV.

5. Thanks and invite City members to participate in activities and trainings

5. managing my hours

- Tim has worked with Dahvi to consider how best to use her 20 hours per week. She has created a minute-by-minute listing of how she spent her time last week,

which we hope will help in the analysis of this.

- Tim will work with Dahvi to find the implications in this, and begin to figure out how to prioritize her workload, based upon what he finds there.
- Dahvi will work 20 hours this week, no more.

6. NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, August 12, 10 am - City Hall