

Provincetown History Summit

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m.

Historical Commission Members present: Taylor Polites, Steve Milkewicz, Eric Dray, Stephen Borkowski, Polly Burnell and Char Priolo.

Members absent: Stephen Desroches (excused).

Notes from the Tear Sheets

How Do You Define Provincetown's History?

Architectural

Interconnectedness/Layered

Historic Beginnings

Abundance – But taken for granted resulting in neglect/loss

Timeline – Past to present and continuing to grow

Cultural

Physical Natural Resources/Nature

Stories

Living History to use/add to on a daily basis

Economics – How people made their living.

How Do You Use History?

To bring people to Town/Organization/Program.

Building itself/sense of place.

Insure accuracy of present as it relates to the past.

To educate.

To protect the past/present when possible.

To connect one organization/program with others.

To show individual's contribution to different organizations/programs.

To get information to enhance organizations timeline/history.

Common Drawbacks to Be Addressed in a Later Session

Lack of funding.

Where to go to get missing/needed information?

Lack of education/knowledge.

No central "Clearinghouse" for information.

Duplication of work.

Lack of leadership.

Break Out Groups

Group #1

What makes collaboration work?

1. Attitude
2. Process/Tools
3. Cooperation/Teamwork
4. Communication and Respect
5. Common Goals
6. Leadership/Organization
7. Celebration and Acknowledgement
8. Follow-through

Group #2

What individual attributes help make a collaborative effort work?

The whole is greater than the sum of its parts

Reliability

Passion

Commitment

Open to outside resources

Clear respectful communication

Common Goals

Open mindedness

Flexibility

Knowledge and Skills

Equal participation

A sense of fun

Five solutions to make collaborative a success

Leadership

Money

Star Power

Wow Factor

Statement – Something tangible to show for efforts.

Group #3

What individual attributes hinder a collaborative effort?

Ego

Personal agendas

Competition

Distrust

Disrespect

Power Struggles

Conflict

Fear

Not open to options

Laziness/Indifference

Lack of leadership

No clear goals

Lack of knowledge

Disorganization

Failure to participate

Poor Communication

Five solutions to make collaborative a success

Empowerment

Leadership

Education/Communication

Transparent clear goals/agenda

Commitment

Five Ways to Educate About History

Awareness of resources (web links/lists)

Through the arts: Movies/Paintings/Literature

Walking Tour

Outreach to Schools

Personal contact – sharing stories

Common Goals (*derived from individual organization goals*)

Education
Restoration
Expansion
Collaboration

Individual Organization Goals

Historical Commission

Expand Provincetown History Preservation Project
Expand Historic Building Survey
Oversee Restoration of Town-Owned Buildings
Educate public
Collaboration with other historical organizations

Art Commission

Preservation/Restoration
Expand Collection/Exhibits

Historic District Commission

Develop educational materials
Expand district
Create a database of information
Renovate historic buildings
Integration with other regulatory policies

Fine Arts Work Center

Renovate historic buildings
Collaborate on cultural heritage/tourism
Publish oral histories

Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum

Restoration/maintenance of buildings
Refine/edit/add to collection
Digitize collection

Cape Cod National Seashore

Restoration of buildings
Expand inventory, including archeological sites
Better document Dune shack District

UU Meeting House

Restoration of building
Expand membership history (photos/stories)

Provincetown Public Library

Restoration of buildings/grounds
Education
Expand historic programming
Oral histories

Nautilus Club

Document/Revive traditions
Expand membership

Provincetown Historical Celebrations

Share heritage

Better communication

School

Develop historical walking tour

Collaboration between Town and Schools for history programs

St. Mary's of the Harbor

Develop educational materials/programs

How Can We Help Each Other Reach Our Goals?

Create a "next step" to today's Summit

Maintain relationships

Create a "List Serve" to keep informed/connected

Create a clearinghouse for information

Develop a game plan for how to incorporate the media

Develop a small doable collaborative idea (Example: Walking Tour)

Think collaboratively – not competitively

Material distribution that is free/available/informative/useable

Coordination of information at existing established functions (Example: Portuguese Festival)

Advocate for central location for heritage/promotional/information (prime location: Freeman Street Building)

Create a shared inventory of what organizations have available

Develop an organizational listing of websites and linkages

Next Steps

Plan for a second meeting in the Fall