

Cook Memorial Library
Board of Trustees
Strategic Planning Committee
April 23, 2018

Notes from Community Conversations, held in April 2018

Meetings were posted on bulletin boards throughout town, on Tamworth Exchange, on library website, Facebook, and in Ann McGarity's Tamworth town column in Conway Daily Sun. Flyer:

Join us for a community conversation
Saturday, April 7 - 10:30 am to 11:30 am
Tuesday, April 10 - 6:30 to 7:30 pm
Wednesday, April 18 - 1 to 2 pm

As we develop our strategic plan, we're asking everyone in our community to meet together to share answers to three questions:

1. ***What are your aspirations for our community?***
2. ***What challenges does our community face in reaching these aspirations?***
3. ***What changes are needed in our community to reach those aspirations?***

If you'd welcome a visit from one or two people on our strategic planning team to discuss these questions with you or with your community group, please let us know.

Saturday, April 7
Attending: John Wacker
Facilitator: Mary Cronin

Aspirations	Challenges	New Conditions (Changes)
Positive collective energy Heal separations	Fractures in community "We" vs. "They" syndrome	Forgiveness Accept change as part of community living Positivity

Tuesday, April 10

Attending: Mark Albee, Ingrid Albee, Andy Davis (representing UUFES)

Facilitator: Mary Cronin

Aspirations	Challenges	New Conditions (Changes)
Vibrant and sustainable land-based local economy Relationships across divisions Varied and meaningful employment Preservation of rural virtues and livelihoods while being open to cosmopolitan and international cultural enrichment Planned multi-age cooperative communities Mix of public and private places for shopping, fill needs Local currency	Support for local businesses Culture tends to gravitate to companies far away Need for employer that provides more than 5 or 6 jobs Living in our comfort zones Narrowmindedness, distrust, lack of empathy, elitism	A simple plan to keep box stores out of rural areas (places away from Rte 16 & 25) Let down our guard a little bit or a lot Imagine local solutions that encompass and include purpose, land and people

Wednesday, April 18

Attending: Becky Mason, Barbara Nordeen, John Dyrenforth, John Wacker, Susan Ticehurst, Susan Raymond, (briefly) Leslie Johnson

Facilitator: Mary Cronin

Aspirations	Challenges	New Conditions (Changes)
Senior in-town housing Safe places Outreach to isolated Stop losing mature talent Attract & retain young people Pharmacy & grocery store (or delivery service) Restaurant/pub open after dark (and ice cream stand) New Master Plan - people-oriented Retain natural resources - stewardship	Lack of local knowledge of civics, how government works, [effective] communication "Good old ways" Us vs. Them - polarized community CMI a divisive issue [Re: senior housing] Funding, leadership, tax base	Listening, facilitated communication, open collaborative decision-making Create "how to" and ground rules for public meetings Start with what's going well Choose Tamworth businesses Retain support for organizations who protect natural resources Let's have a town picnic!