

CUYAHOGA COUNTY TRANSITION WORKGROUP MEETING SUMMARY

Workgroup: Public Engagement
Date/Time: February 17, 2010 from 6:11 p.m. to 7:59 p.m.
Location: Cleveland State University - Levin College of Urban Affairs
Purpose: Public Forum
Meeting Leaders: Randy McShepard
In Attendance: Mary Denihan, Harriet Applegate, Andres Gonzalez, Linda Lalley, Robyn Minter Smyers, Kelly Farrell, Steve Millard, Lorna Wisham, Gary Holland, Jim McCafferty, Joe Nanni, Marty Zanotti

Discussion Topic:

- **How to engage the public in the Cuyahoga County transition process.**

Action Items

Overview of the Public Engagement Committee Charge and Anticipated Process

1. **The first meeting of the Public Engagement workgroup was on January 28. A charter had not been established and the workgroup started the process of creating their charges. They also discussed how to engage the public in the transition process.**
2. **The February 3 meeting was used to complete the charges and discuss the RFQ for the Communication and Public Engagement Consultant. The workgroup started sifting through the names of the 1,000 volunteers and deliberated on how to make sure the volunteers are connected to the various workgroups that they selected.**
3. **The February 11 meeting discussion was about tonight's Public Forum and how to get the word to as many Cuyahoga County residents as possible.**

Public Forum – Questions and Comments from the Audience

1. **Key comments from the public included:**
 - a. **The transition process needs to be open and transparent so that trust is rebuilt in county government**
 - b. **Minutes should be posted on the website**

- c. Education should be at the top of the effort
 - d. Make sure everyone's voice is heard
 - e. Community message boards should be created for each workgroup to enhance participation and awareness
 - f. Create a regular time for release of information on radio, tv, etc.
 - g. Take meetings to the neighborhoods
 - h. Have large town hall meetings
 - i. Try to be sensitive to meeting times
 - j. Consider streaming the meetings on the internet
2. Members of the audience also presented a number of questions that were answered by the Public Engagement Committee, James McCafferty and Martin Zannoti.

General Information/Wrap Up

- 1, The charges for each workgroup will be posted to the Cuyahoga County Transition website tomorrow.
2. Meeting minutes for workgroups will also be posted on the County Transition website as meetings occur.
3. The entire Public Forum was videotaped and will be placed on the website.