

## meeting minutes

**From:** Charlie Cowell, Mark McLaughlin (RDG)  
**Project No.:** R3004.450.00      **File No.(s):** 2.01  
**Date:**  
**Meeting Date:** October 28, 2021; 8:30 a.m. – Oskaloosa City Hall

**Project Name:** Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code Update

**Subject:** Advisory Committee Meeting #2 - Minutes

**Copies to:** Oskaloosa Plan Advisory Committee and Project Management Team

### Agenda

1. **Introductions**
  - a. RDG and Advisory Committee members introduced themselves.
2. **Webpage and Survey**
  - a. Social Pinpoint webpage and survey are ready to launch.
    - i. [www.PlanOskaloosa.com](http://www.PlanOskaloosa.com)
  - b. Members of the advisory committee can spread the survey and webpage out to their contacts.
  - c. RDG will check-in at the next advisory meeting to see if a specific push is needed to reach a specific resident group underrepresented in the survey.
3. **Listening Sessions**
  - a. Listening sessions will be held from November 16 through 18.
  - b. Listening sessions are an in-depth discussion between a group of ten people or less who have a shared interest (realtors, business owners, community activists, etc.)
  - c. Art and Culture has a round table once a month a listening session should be held with them.
  - d. Chamber of Commerce holds an “Eggs and Issues” roundtable with elected officials every other Saturday from January to March. RDG will evaluate an opportunity to attend one of these events.
  - e. If people know residents who would be good to have in a listening session (especially seniors), send names and email addresses to Shawn Christ.
    - i. Committee members mentioned the United Way, hospital, church leaders.
4. **Peer Cities**
  - a. A discussion of peer cities to be used as comparisons in the plan happened.
  - b. Indianola, Dubuque, Waverly, and Decorah were suggested as possibilities. There were mixed feelings on making comparisons to Pella. However, the group generally felt it was ok to show data in the regional market context.
5. **Discussion about initial data**
  - a. RDG presented initial data findings (Check meeting slides for full details).
  - b. More data points will be presented at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee meeting.
6. **Other takeaways**
  - a. Want to create something unique that draws people to Oskaloosa.
  - b. Create a better sense of pride amongst residents.
  - c. Members felt there was a lack of land for building new homes.
  - d. A perception that blighted homes and non-blighted homes are interspersed, bringing housing values down.



- e. We need to consider the regional economic context and where people work or will work in the future (remote).

**Attendance**

	Brant Bollman, FACE, Optimists
x	Joe Caligiuri, City Council
	Maria DeStefano, Clow Valve
x	Tom Flaherty, Mahaska County
x	Jim Hansen, Musco Lighting
x	Katie Johnston, Business Owner
	Cody Landgrebe, BOA
x	Andy McGuire, Chamber
x	Scott Moore, PZ
	Emma Rodriguez, Business Owner
x	Linda Russell, PZ
x	Lindsey Thomas, Mahaska County
x	Molly Walker, Business Owner

