

Eau Claire Neighborhood Revitalization Summit

Meeting Notes

March 10, 2016, 7:00 PM
RCU Corporate Center, Community Room
200 Riverfront Terrace, Eau Claire

1. Darryl Tufte, Director of Community Development provided a brief welcome.
2. Speaker Presentations: *What are Other Cities Doing?*
 1. Bill Reinke, Director, Neighborhood Housing Services of Southwest Wisconsin
 2. Salli Martyniak, President, Forward Community Investments, Madison
 3. Marianne Morton, Director, Common Wealth Development NDC, Madison

Detailed presentations from Bill, Salli and Marianne can be found online at <http://www.eauclairewi.gov/departments/community-development/planning/comprehensive-plan/neighborhood-revitalization>

3. Panel discussion with audience dialogue:
 1. Marianne Morton answered a question about the sources of income for her organization. She noted the income came from 1) fundraising, 2) development projects, 3) built up over the years, 4) 60-75% of the budget is self-generated from rent and 5) looking for different ways and sources.
 2. Salli Martyniak addressed questions about qualifying for a Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI). She noted 1) you start small, by obtaining grants and investors, 2) you need to apply and get recertified, 3) build long-term financial sustainability to meet your mission, 4) grant assistance is available on an annual basis and 5) funding is available from several sources. (The CDFI is part of the Department of Treasury.)
 3. There was another question about how to start up a neighborhood development corporation.
 - Marianne Morton stated the community had a need, their community did their homework, created by-laws/articles of incorporation, set a mission, set up a city-wide loan fund (neighborhood still provided sources themselves and launched). She noted that sustainability for funding and resources is a key to long-term success of the organization.
 - Bill Reinke stated they used to drive around the community. Technical assistance, loan funds and foundations (nationwide) were provided to help with their start-up.
 - It was noted that there is no "one" model to follow, each community is different and must address its own individual needs and capitalize on their own talents.
 - Successful projects need to respond to what the market needs.
4. Darryl gave closing remarks. The meeting ended at 9:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 14, 2016 at 7 p.m. The agenda will include a recap of the first three meetings, group discussions and determine the needs in Eau Claire.