



# Post-Meeting NEWSLETTER

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

Volume 1 Issue 1  
January 2, 2008



## Workgroup Meetings

January 8, 2008

### Community Education & Learning Committee

OCTC Science Bldg, Room 107  
6:30 p.m.  
Chair: Lorna Hollowell  
Recorder: Nancy Whitmer

January 15, 2008

### A Region of Opportunity & Appeal

Wendell H. Ford Govt. Ed. Center (Museum of Science & History, downtown)  
6:30 p.m.  
Chair: James Zabek  
Recorder/Communication: Linda Reed Perry

January 15, 2008

### Environmental Impact Council

OCTC Southeastern campus (behind Daviess County High School), Industry Room  
7:00 p.m.  
Chair to be named  
Recorder: Renee Kincaid

January 3, 2008

### A Healthy & Caring Community

Wendell Foster Campus (Young Meeting House)  
6:30 p.m.  
Chair: Ron Logsdon

January 10, 2008

### A Government for the 21st Century

Wendell H. Ford Govt. Ed. Center (Museum of Science & History, downtown)  
6:30 p.m.  
Co-Chairs: Belinda Abell, Pam Blackstone

### You were part of it!

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! ...to all the participants and volunteers who made our We the People Town Meeting such a remarkable success. This unprecedented citizen assembly featured dialogue at 67 tables around five goal areas, enhanced by modern technology. More than 650 citizens devoted seven hours to our challenge of building a better community and a stronger citizen voice.

### Participants from all walks of life

We were particularly proud to attract town meeting participants that closely paralleled the demographic profile of our community: urban and rural, young and old, racial diversity, all income levels and more. We offered signing for the hearing impaired, large print versions of the Participant Guide, Spanish translation, child care, transportation, even breakfast and lunch. Special thanks to our Outreach Committee!

### Preliminary Report released, working on Final Report

If you did not pick up the Preliminary Report as you left the town meeting, it is available on our website: [www.wethepeopletownmeeting.org](http://www.wethepeopletownmeeting.org). We are compiling and analyzing 209 pages of dialogue notes for our Final Report. In this comprehensive report, we will also identify significant group variations in the priorities and recommendations.

### Great start on implementation phase

The overflow crowd on December 4th was a little chaotic – moving chairs and discussion groups into other areas of the building. But such enthusiasm! And such a sense that we CAN make a difference. Ideas were flowing... we're off to a GREAT start!

If you have not yet selected a Working Group, please make note of the meeting schedule in the left hand margin.

### Let's grow this base!

Bring a friend to your next Working Group meeting: co-worker, neighbor, coffee chum, book club member, friend from a civic club, Sunday School or bowling team. Let's take advantage of the ideas, skills and interests of more people who want to help make Owensboro-Daviess County an even better place to call home!

### Make the most of skills and interests

The Working Group that is focusing on the environment came up with a neat idea on December 4th. To make the best use of its member attributes, they decided to identify the skills and interests of their members. Some may enjoy or be good at finance, marketing, advocacy, public speaking, event management, research, fundraising, grantwriting or more. Might be a good idea to try for your group also!



**Leaders stepping forward**

Thanks to all our facilitators and recorders who helped out on December 4th. Some agreed to stay on as leaders; other leaders came forth from the participants. Our Working Group leaders at this point are:

Goal Area	Chair/Co-Chair Communications
<b>Community Education &amp; Learning Committee</b>	Lorna Hollowell, Chair Nancy Whitmer, Recorder
<b>A Region of Opportunity and Appeal</b>	James Zabek, Chair Linda Reed Perry, Recorder
<b>Environmental Impact Council</b>	Chair to be named Renee Kincaid, Recorder
<b>A Healthy and Caring Community</b>	Ron Logsdon and Monique Craig, Co-leaders
<b>A Government for the 21st Century</b>	Belinda Abell/Pam Blackstone, Co-leaders

**90 Day Action Plans!!!**

During the December 4 meeting, the Working Groups identified the following things they would like to accomplish in 90 days:

<b>Community Education &amp; Learning Committee</b>	Partner with family resource centers Partner with youth and social agencies
<b>A Region of Opportunity and Appeal</b>	Examine truck traffic problems on Second Street Promote removal of downtown parking meters
<b>Environmental Impact Council</b>	Meet with solid waste manager on recycling Apply special skills of members
<b>A Healthy and Caring Community</b>	Restructure local public health services Expand/sustain programs that promote healthy lifestyles
<b>A Government for the 21st Century</b>	Present 2 or 3 specific and measurable practices for elected officials to work on Determine better methods to communicate with citizens.

**Outstanding media coverage**

Our town meeting has received terrific coverage in the media! Local coverage by the Messenger-Inquirer, Louisville Courier-Journal (Op-Ed piece), Henderson Gleaner (column), KET's Comment on Kentucky and more!

We hope you have seen the one-hour special produced by OCTV (Channel 51). The program effectively captured the scope, substance and spirit of the town meeting. Copies are available for \$10 through the Public Life Foundation.

**Temporary headquarters**

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