

One Lenawee is...a collaboration of concerned people dedicated to the **Vision of making Lenawee County a Great Place to live, work, learn, worship, play, and invest.**

We bring attention and action to important community issues.

Uniting and Connecting partners and committed people, we identify, support, and develop initiatives and projects that optimize community resources to **The Vision.**



2021 OBJECTIVES

- * **Continue to work on the seven Focus Areas**
- * **New priorities:**
 - **Public Transportation**
 - **Attainable Housing**
 - **Communications**

OUR PROCESS:

- **Evaluate**
- **Educate**
- **Engage**

Steering Committee Notes July 15, 2021

Present: Chris Miller, Madeline DeMarco, Mark Haag, Sue Lewis, Randy Yagiela, Tim Kelly, Dave Maxwell, Marty Marshall, Joe Williams, Lynne Punnett

Joe welcomed One Lenawee to the new Lenawee Community Foundation office!

ONE LENAWEE STRATEGIC VISION PRIORITIES 2021 AND BEYOND:

Public Transportation:

The Transportation Task Force recently finalized their MOU's and By-laws. Marcia Bohannon has retired, and her replacement has been hired. This person is an employee of Lenawee County. Her name is Kathryn Bashore and she was previously employed in the athletic department at Siena Heights. The start date for Ride Lenawee has been postponed until the first Thursday of August. The route has changed to include more stops between Adrian and Tecumseh. Ticket price for the first 1,000 riders has been covered and assistance will be available to those who struggle financially. Ride Lenawee will now run until February of 2022. There are no restrictions for riders, however Chris will investigate whether children can travel unaccompanied by an adult. Later an employer piece will be added to accommodate the workforce.

Attainable Quality Housing for All:

Joe shared his recent attendance at the Region 2 economic development strategic planning session. This strategic plan is necessary to apply for federal funding. Issues regarding housing and transportation were identified and will be addressed 'regionally'. He continued to report that housing is being addressed with every community foundation throughout Michigan. The American Rescue Plan funds may be able to help by providing the opportunity to hire someone to lead this effort for three years. This is our one-time, where dollars are available to help us.

Lynne reported that the housing sub-group met recently, and they received job descriptions from other entities and they're meeting again next week to discuss their next step to make a case to the County Commission. She shared that some counties have formed a separate non-profit. A good web site is critical. She talked about her participation in a Habitat webinar where the emphasis

was on “decent” and livable housing. This includes housing that is affordable, accessible, available, and adequate.

There was a lot of discussion regarding the person who would lead this housing effort in Lenawee County and what value and benefit this person could offer.

Marty reported that the county received 9.5 million dollars, which is one-half of our funds. Collectively local communities received about one-half of what the county received. The county has appointed a four-person sub-committee to evaluate requests for funding. The first round will be decided in September and housing was one of the requests. They hope to be surveying for feedback in mid-August and will present results to the full commission. There are a couple of significant efforts currently in the mix and may play out over the next 24 months, looking at every community and how they are going to use these dollars.

Our top priority should be a new housing study and especially focus on one story or condo housing for the older population.

Our proposal needs to go to the Ways and Means Committee of the County Commission, and they meet on September 7th at 10:00 a.m.

Other discussion:

- Broadband is also a major issue regionally.
- What’s the right thing to do for the good of our county?
- Tim asked if we should reach out to other communities now rather than later to align our efforts. We have a lot of rural townships without many resources, especially in leadership.
- The new owners of the Daily Telegram will not allow logos with articles. Madeline will reach out to Frank Nagle to see if he would assist in writing the next newspaper article on the results of the 2020 Lenawee County Health Assessment.
- WLEN topic – TBD
- Thank you Joe for offering your boardroom as our new meeting location!

ONE LENAWEE STRUCTURE AND SUCCESSION: This topic needs more discussion and will require a special meeting. Someday we will have this discussion .

Next meeting date: Thursday, August 19, 7:30am. Facilitator – Chris

**THE MEETING WILL BE AT THE NEW LOCATION OF THE
LENAWEE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
1440 W. MAUMEE ST. ADRIAN**