

White River Partnership (WRP)

In-person Meeting @ Marion Grange – Dec 9, 2024 (10:00AM-11:30AM)

What's our Why?

- ☐ Serve as leadership group for White River 'Community of Focus'
- ☐ Purpose: Develop priorities, goals, and measurable outcomes to improve the well-being of White River communities. Serve as a working group to accomplish the outcomes.
- ☐ Priorities: Access to Resources, Food Justice, Transportation, Youth Activities, Social Connections, Behavioral Health
- ☐ Successes: identified community priorities, \$175,000 investments, RDI leadership team & installation of Wilkeson garden, oversee WRHT \$78k fund, EBT cooler at Buckley Market, increasing resource access, **grant for NE Pierce guide website!!**

Action Points from last meeting (11/14/2024)

- WRP members decided they would like to review the current data before choosing projects to focus on in 2025.
- A list of datasets was identified and individuals were assigned to share the data at the January 2025 meeting.

Participants (16)

In-person: Stephanie King, Jennifer Fletcher, Marcy Boulet, Joshua Hosford, Leah Haugen, Daniel Burdsall, Meagan Rhoades, Kirby Pollard, Judith Chelotti, Chris Vanhoof, George Roe, Sue Munion, Samantha Shelby, Cindy Haverkamp, Sara Sutterfield, Sue Z Hart

Virtual:

Important Coalition Resources:

White River Partnership website: <https://sites.google.com/view/whiteriverpartnership/home>

North East Pierce Resource Guide: <https://www.northeastpierceresourceguide.org/>



Meeting Guidelines & Reminders:

- We are focused on the greater White River, not just one area/town within White River.
- To use our time wisely, keep your ideas succinct, to the point, appropriate for this meeting.
- Be inclusive and open to all ideas - Remember, this coalition is action-oriented.

AGENDA

Purpose: Setting the space(2-3 meetings) for discussion to understand the future direction of the White River Partnership coalition in developing impactful change for a better White River community. Also, MAKE AND BRING A SOUP TO SHARE!!!!

Adore the soup spread, Choose a soup, and Get settled! (10 mins) All

- FYSA: We will vote on the best soup at the end of the meeting.
- Bring containers for leftovers, if interested.

Welcome & Quick Introductions (5 min) Mary Beth

**Review the minutes and assignments from the Nov meeting (10 mins)
Daniel**

Open Discussion on Future Direction (60 mins) Mary Beth, Marcy, Daniel

- Forum style with flip charts and poster board stands
- Strengths of WRP? What brings you to the meeting?
- What's gone well with WRP?
- What could be improved? What makes it challenging to attend?
- How should decisions about the future be determined? Survey data, Hard data, other?

Meeting Needs:

- Flip Chart Poster boards, Tripod, Pens (Mary Beth)

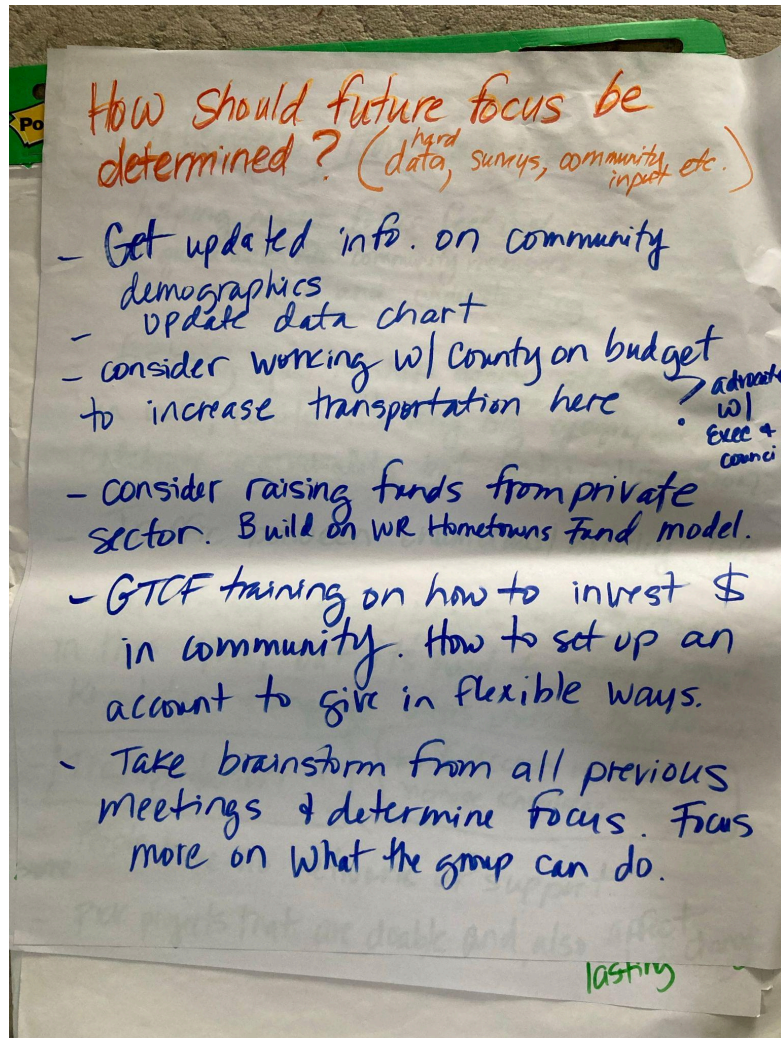
Vote on the Best Soups - The Top 3! All

Next Steps/Adjourn (5 mins) All

- o Share the plans for future meetings.
 - o Assess whether current meeting time and location is still optimal.
- o Next meeting scheduled for January 13, 2025 (10-11:30AM) at Marion Grange & Zoom

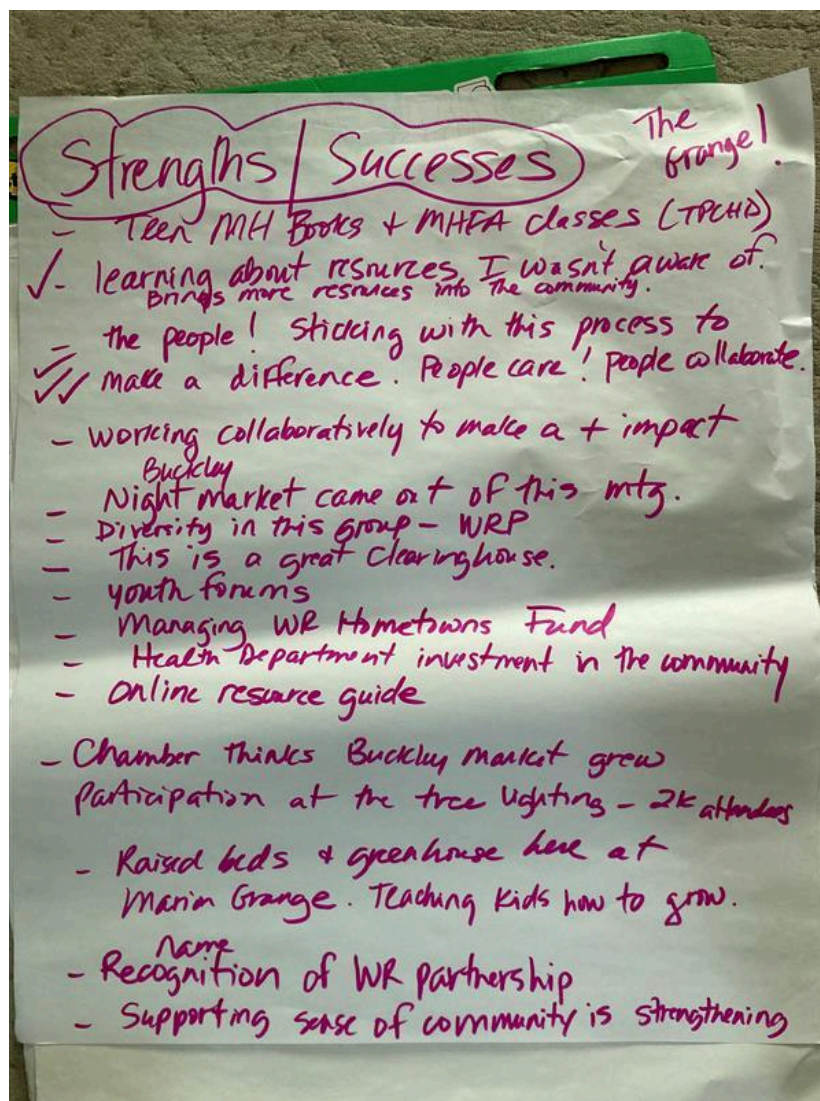
Meeting Notes:

- CM Dave Morrell and Sara Stratton funded a pilot - what is the status?
- Consider in-house skills and resources when assessing projects.



How should future focus be determined? (hard data, surveys, community input, etc)

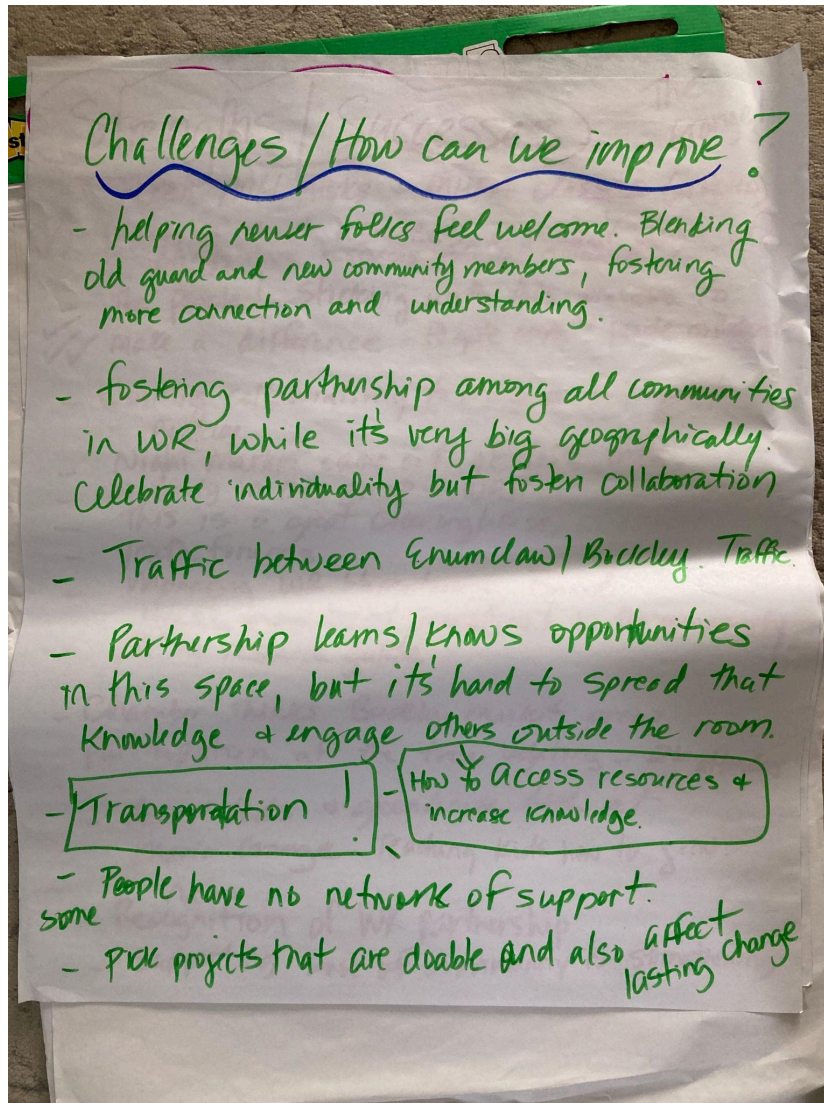
- Get updated information on community demographics
- Update data chart
- Consider working with county on budget to increase transportation here - advocate with Executive and the Council
- Consider raising funds from the private sector - Build on WR Hometowns Fund model.
- GTCF training on how to invest money in the community - How to set up an account to give in flexible ways.
- Take the brainstormed ideas from all previous meetings and determine focus - Focus more on what the group can do.



Strengths & Success:

- Teen mental health books & Mental Health First Aid classes (MHFA) via the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department (TPCHD).
- The Marion Grange location and their support.
- Learning about resources I wasn't aware of - WRP helps to bring more resources into the community.
- The people - Sticking with this process to make a difference. People care! People collaborate.
- Working collaboratively to make a positive impact in Buckley.
- The Night Market idea came out of the WRP meeting discussions.
- The group diversity.
- This is a great clearing house.
- Youth forums.
- Managing WR Hometowns Fund.
- Health Department investment in the community.
- Online resource guide.

- Chamber thinks Buckley Market grew participation at the tree lighting - 2,000 attendees
- Raised beds and greenhouse at the Marion Grange - Teaching kids how to grow healthy food items.
- Increased name recognition of White River Partnership.
- Supporting a sense of community is strengthening.



Challenges & How can we improve?

- Helping newer folks feel welcome - Blend old guard members and new community members, fostering more connection and understanding.
- Fostering partnership among all communities in White River (not just Buckley), While it's very big geographically - Celebrate individuality while fostering collaboration.
- Traffic between Enumclaw & Buckley - Traffic.
- Partnership learns & knows opportunities in this space, but it's hard to spread that knowledge and engage others outside the room.
 - How to access resources and increase knowledge?

- Transportation
- Some people have no network of support
- Pick projects that are realistic and also affect lasting change.