

TOWN OF BAYBORO STEP Leadership Team PC
Courthouse First Floor Kitchen Annex Room
February 17, 2009 @ 5:30PM

Mr. Himbry called the meeting to order and on behalf of the Mayor and Town Council welcomed everyone.

Chilton Rogers, STEP Coach from the NC Rural Center, took the floor and gave a brief overview of the purpose and expectations of the STEP Leadership Team. Ms. Rogers then went on to introduce the new Superintendent of Pamlico County Schools, James P. Coon. Mr. Coon applauded the efforts the County has taken towards improvement. He also expressed appreciation at being included in the development efforts.

Ms. Rogers also reviewed the vision and mission statements of the STEP Leadership Team which was to be all inclusive and growth promoting, while maintaining small town atmosphere and values. The next step of the Leadership Team was to do a Community Profile. The purpose of the Profile was to go around and view the communities and decide what was good about them and what needed changing. In short, it is a list of the good, the ugly, and the vision of where we wanted to go with our communities. Ms. Rogers stated that the main purpose of this meeting was to introduce and start building relationships with other members of the economic development world. Economic development is a big phrase and a big catchall that means many different things to many people. There is no better way to get a feel for economic development except to talk to people who live, breath, preach, and work it every day. Ms. Rogers stated that the Leadership Team is the ones that will do it on a town level, but that Jayne Robb, Pamlico County Planning and Economic Development, does it on a county level.

Ms. Robb gave a brief presentation regarding the past, current, and future plans for the development of Pamlico County. She explained the process of applying for grants, developing a regional vision plan, holding workshops, and planning for the future. Several projects are in the works at this time, and Ms. Robb invited the public to participate.

After a brief refreshment break, Ms. Rogers introduced Judy Hill, Director of Economic & Community Development from the Eastern Carolina Council of Governments. Ms. Hill gave a power point presentation in which she explained what economic development was, who benefits, who can help, and how to fund development.

Lastly, Ms. Rogers introduced Al Delia, Executive Director of Eastern Region of the North Carolina Partnership for Economic Development. Mr. Delia gave a brief power point presentation regarding the promotion of economic development. He explained what the partnership does and how they figure out what it is that they are going to do. The Partnership's mission is to promote economic development by creating growth and expanding capacity.

Ms. Rogers ended the meeting with reemphasizing that by coming together as a region wide community, we can accomplish what we set out to do in an organized, cohesive, and

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collaborative manner. And that we do not need to start from scratch in that we have the resources in place to call upon for information and help.

The next STEP Committee Meeting has been scheduled for March 16, 2009 from 5:30pm-7:30pm. Refreshments will be provided. The Committee is encouraged to invite others to attend.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Baker-Coordinator