

# Alliance Meeting Notes November 13, 2013

Attendance: 11

Chelsie Herian, Russ Furich, Amanda Loomis, Judy Amoo, Kim Engel, Mark Anderson, Pat Runkle, Karen Runkle, Kevin Howard, JD Cox, Debby Feller, Chuck Karpf, Daniel Bennett (facilitator)

## **Focus Areas**

Housing  
Trades professions  
Enhanced Tourism  
Youth  
Assets  
Workforce  
Education  
Healthcare

## **Mindsets**

Thinking of the Panhandle as a unified community  
Being unapologetic for our area; positive and enthusiastic  
Sustainable development: marathon not a sprint  
Shared pride  
Shine theory: I don't shine if you don't shine  
What's good for one is good for all  
Creating our own entertainment  
Fostering Tolerance and Diversity  
Success is getting up one more time than you fall down

## **Specific creative Ideas**

Linkubator—Connecting people to ideas, increasing the frequency of the 'spark'  
Hobby/interest fair  
Outdoor outfitter for rental equipment, packages, trip ideas  
Region-wide website developer business  
Gardening and greenhouses  
Underground Alliance  
Ghost town tours  
Embrace and promote unique and quirky assets  
Coordinate and promote festivals on a regional scale  
Information available in one place- High plains compass  
Golf Tour- (Tentative title: Teed Off)  
Internship summer surge  
Alternative transportation

## **Workforce**

Things to grow:

- Competitive wages
- Grow our own mentality and initiative for needs and businesses
- Internships
- “The training academy”
- Skilled laborers
- Work ethic

## **Housing**

Gaps/opportunities:

- Developers
- Money
- Assess need
- Find ‘risk takers’
- Overcome cost
- Cheaper land/lots
- Community partners
- Second story apartments
- Tradespeople to work on housing

## **Education**

- Dual credit program
- Creating a skilled workforce
- Good schools is an asset
- WNCC pres./CSC
- RHOP
- College of Nursing

## **Location**

- Stop undervaluing our resources
- Clean air
- Rural lifestyle
- Friendly
- Airport
- Transportation
- Agriculture
- Moving close to family (help) (young families)
- Recreational Opportunities

## **Food systems**

- Take advantage of sunshine
- Fill need for more locally grown organic produce
- Farm to schools partnerships
- Commercial greenhouses potential
- Being the ‘best fed plains state’
- Connect agriculture and food growing to education and tourism