

*****January 9-10, 2009*****

The Signal Mountain Town Council held a strategic planning session on Friday, January 9 and Saturday, January 10, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. each day at the Mountain Arts Community Center. Those present were:

Mayor Bill Lusk
 Vice Mayor Susan Robertson
 Councilmember Annette Allen
 Councilmember Paul Hendricks
 Councilmember Hershel Dick

Also present were: Town Manager Honna Rogers
 MTAS Management Consultant Margaret Norris

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss strategic planning, i.e., setting long-term goals and priorities for the Town.

The meeting began with an overview of strategic planning. The different roles that elected officials, management, and staff fulfill in the planning process were discussed.

The Council worked in small groups to develop ideas for a mission statement. The following statement was created:

“The mission of the Town of Signal Mountain is to provide open government, high quality services, efficient use of resources, and sustainability through managed growth as well as to foster community involvement, innovation and opportunity while preserving small town character.”

The Council then reviewed statistics regarding the global, national, regional and local social and economic environments.

The Council worked in small groups to develop ideas for a vision statement. The following statement was created:

“The Town of Signal Mountain will foster a safe, friendly community that is economically and environmentally sustainable with attractive public spaces, recreational and cultural opportunities and a strong sense of place for all generations.”

A SWOT analysis, a process for identifying strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats facing the Town, was performed. The Council discussed different areas considered to be key issues. Consensus was obtained to pursue the following five goals:

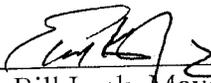
- Increase cultural opportunities
- Develop a transportation plan
- Increase economic development efforts

- Develop an infrastructure plan
- Improve land use management

The Council agreed to have the staff present an action plan to accomplish these goals.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.


Recorder



Bill Lusk, Mayor