“...when it’s done well, group decision-making remains the best hope for solving difficult problems. There is no substitute for the wisdom that results from a successful integration of divergent points of view. (Kaner, 2007)"

Facilitator
Diana Hammer Tcheschlok, MSW, CAPSW, is a Community, Natural Resource, & Economic Development Educator for Fond du Lac County UW-Extension. In that role she equips residents and community leaders with content knowledge and process skills to make informed decisions and meet challenges productively. She has facilitated and designed processes with numerous groups such as the Boys and Girls Club of Fond du Lac, Fond du Lac Area Agri-Business Council, Fond du Lac School District, Just Fare, and UW-Fond du Lac. Diana is an Associate Professor with tenure in the UW-Extension Department of Community Resource Development and has a Masters in Social Work from Saint Louis University.

With an office in each Wisconsin county, UW-Extension develops practical educational programs tailored to local needs and based on university knowledge and research. We teach, learn, lead, and serve, connecting people with the University of Wisconsin and engaging with them in transforming lives and communities.

UW-Extension Approach
“Planning is the organization of hope.” Stephen Blum

Lakeside Park is a deeply treasured part of Fond du Lac’s past, present, and future. UW-Extension will work with this committee to design an educational, participatory process that honors the tradition and importance of the park to the City and envisions its potential for all stakeholders. Specifically, the process will likely include the committee:

- Deciding how to maintain transparency and inclusivity for the public,
- Deciding how to measure progress and effectiveness of discussions,
- Identifying what data exists and what data is yet needed to best understand the situation,
- Identifying who cares about the park and is impacted by it,
- Determining how to collect and analyze input about the park from these stakeholders and getting it,
- Learning from stakeholders and data about aspects of the park that are working well,
• Learning from stakeholders and data about aspects of the park that could be improved,
• Learning from stakeholders and data about opportunities and challenges that will influence the space and use of the park into the future,
• Identifying potential recommendations for the Park based on information from stakeholders, data, and group discussion,
• Discussing and finding consensus on major themes for the recommendations,
• Deciding how to present the discussion results and recommendations to City Council and the public,
• Evaluating the process and the report. How did this work for the City, stakeholders, and committee members?

Visual Process Overview (Kaner, 2007)

Contact

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