Activity 3 – The Finance Committee

Facilitator: Questions from the Finance Committee can be very effective if they evolve on their own out of previous responses. Questions on this list can be used as prompts if help is needed to get the discussion going. It is not unusual for the same questions to be repeated in every committee and also brought up by members of the public/audience at any meeting.

Questions from the Finance Committee

To the Hikers/Park group:
- Have you approached the landowner regarding the sale of the property?
- Will the city have to hire additional personnel to operate/maintain the park?
- Will there be a fee to use the park? If so, how will the fees be collected?
- Will any automated systems be used instead of working humans (gates, lighting, ticket/fee dispensers, etc.)?
- Will you be developing a path system through the park?
  - What will the path be made of? Will it require maintenance? How much will the materials and/or maintenance cost?
- Will the park require an irrigation system? If so, how much will that cost?
- Have you sought funding from other charitable organizations to augment the money for the project?
- Will it require utilities? (i.e. water/plumbing for bathroom facilities, irrigation, water fountains, etc. and/or electricity for lighting in bathrooms, parking lot, etc.) Has thought been given to the construction expenses of putting in those systems, and their monthly use bills?

To the Youth Coalition/Recreation Center group:
- Has the school district been approached regarding a purchase price for the building?
- What modifications need to be done to the existing building to make it usable as a recreation center, and have these costs been calculated? (asbestos and lead paint abatement, electrical updates (grounded outlets), internet, wall removal, kitchen, bathroom and plumbing updates, painting, etc.)
- What exterior modifications need to be done (re-paving parking lot, landscaping, lighting, etc.)?
- Will there be fees for using the facility?
- Who will staff the building, and what are the anticipated human resource costs?
- Is it possible that this building be rented out to bring in revenue, or at minimum, to sustain its operations?
- Are the coalition organizations willing or able to contribute funding to the rehab of the building?
- Are there other adjacent municipalities that might be interested in co-developing this project with us to serve a broader audience and increase the facility’s use?
- Have you sought funding from other charitable organizations to augment the money for the project?
- If the youth center ceases to be functional after some years for any reason, what will happen to the property?