



CRETE PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

April 18, 2023 at 6:00 PM

Crete Library/ Community Room 1515 Forest Ave.

MINUTES

Notice of the meeting was given by posting, the appointed method for giving notice as shown by the attached notice, at the following locations:

City Hall, 243 East 13th Street

Post Office, 1242 Linden Avenue

City Bank and Trust, 1135 Main Avenue

Advance notice of the meeting was also given to committee members. Pursuant to Section 84-1412(8) of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, the City has posted a current copy of the Open meetings Act, Laws of the State of Nebraska, in the back of the council chambers. All proceedings shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

1. Open Meeting

Ryan Jindra:	Absent
Dave Jurena:	Present
Justin Kozisek:	Present
Scott Kunch:	Present
Tom Ourada:	Present
Jay Quinn:	Present
Drew Rische:	Absent
Jennifer Robison:	Present
Jeff Wenz:	Absent
Anthony Fitzgerald	Present

Present: 7.

2. Roll Call

3. Items of Business

3.A. Comprehensive Plan Update presentation by Confluence staff.

Assembled groups heard a Comprehensive Plan update presentation by Confluence staff, Christopher Shires and Caitlin Bolte

Planners are about halfway through the new comprehensive plan process and are currently in Phase 2: Vision, Input, and Direction. They shared community profile data including terrain, population growth projections, age, race, and ethnicity demographics, household income, housing ownership, commuters, employment, and land use.

An Advisory Committee kick-off meeting included discussions about the biggest advantages in Crete as well as the most challenging aspects of updating the plan; other issues included those with housing and economic development opportunities. Stakeholders addressed in the community included students, commuters, economic development groups, Welcoming Circle members, realtors, bankers, community leaders, business owners, and developers.

Stakeholder interviews, a public workshop, and interactive website yielded theme topic areas of focus, and results of mapping and image voting activities.

Strategic planning was held with city department heads and then with the mayor and council members about the city's diamonds - things the community does well, coal - community struggles, and roadblocks - challenges to turning coal into diamonds. Groups talked about core values and critical categories for long term decision-making: finance and budget, facilities and equipment, customer service and outreach, staffing/human capital, future planning and policy.

The council committed to focus on five key priorities in the short-term: railroad quiet zone, staffing plan, street improvements, housing and economic development strategy, and parks and recreation master plan.

Guiding principles from the consultant team include: Welcoming Community, Quality of Life, Diversity in Housing Options, Pedestrian Mobility and Connectivity, Economic Development and Growth, Parks and Recreation, Strategic Partnerships. Twenty-one Big Ideas were also highlighted.

The next steps in the plan are draft writing, review sessions in April/May/June, and a public open house projected for June.

4. Adjournment