



## **VOICE EXPERIENCES FLOWER POT SUMMARY REPORT**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2013  
TIN MAN BREWING COMPANY**



## What VOICE is About

VOICE brings together diverse members of our community in facilitator-led group discussions to draw out and capture everyone's ideas for the future. Together, we'll discuss our hopes and dreams for Evansville in a comfortable, open forum that's fun and inspiring, too. The sessions allow respectful conversations to take place, and all voices to be heard, and every opinion to be documented and shared. VOICE will ensure that everyone in our community has the opportunity to take part in creating a desired future. Absolutely everyone.

## The VOICE Process

VOICE brought together diverse members of the community to discuss their dreams for Evansville in an open, positive forum. The facilitation was led in such a way that respectful conversations occurred, all voices heard and visions documented, ensuring that the entire community had the opportunity to take part in creating a desired future. Through the facilitated process, we compiled all the visions to look for common themes to build collaborative strategic actions.

A summary and detailed notes from each session are available to the participants and the public via [www.evansvillevoice.com](http://www.evansvillevoice.com).

Once all visions were collected, additional community sessions, referred to as Big Action Meetings (BAM) were held to verify that the information collected truly represents participants' visions and reveal the top themes that were captured from 32 visioning sessions. These top themes are Healthy Green Space, City Core and Experiences.

Any interested citizen and stakeholder are invited to participate in these themed meetings to move forward with further research and planning toward common goals and strategic actions.



## VOICE SESSION SCHEDULE

Welcome & Instructions

Jason Roberts TEDx video

What are you doing or do you know of that currently exists in our city as an experience

What resources do we already have & What ideas do you have for an experience

Collaboration through abundance

Wrap up/ What's next



## **LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator**

*Welcome & Introductions*

**Volunteers: Amy Mangold, Catherine Cotrupi, Kaylene Kittle, Alexia Kittle, Nate Hahn, Donna Sanders, Kelly Martin, Miranda Knight, Jeff Gruszewski**



### **LARGE GROUP OPENING- Lead Facilitator**

“What are you doing or know do you know currently exists in our community regarding our experiences? What are your ideas for experiences and what are some resources we already have?”

- Defined area for street performers to spontaneously show up and perform
- Wants to see Roberts park, greenway expanded, zest fest - more outdoor music and cafes, new museum expansion, downtown developed and used, outdoor café at museum
- Spring festival
- More river events like Evening on the River
  
- Development of city cores
  
- Cruises on the river with music, dinner, dance
- Big toy drive for all kids
  
- Riverside and mulberry - planted roses and mulberry tree - every spring they go and clean it up - has one ton truck and gas to offer
- Music - connect to new harmony
  
- Food trucks
- Summer job fair for kids coming of age; mental health seminars
  
- Music faculty concerts; community resource with events listing where everything can be posted
  
- Online billboard for activities, interested on riverfront, wants Evening on the River all the time, planner, organizer
- More international culture



- Resource - starting meet up group – “tweetups” - tech on tap - music boat named “foxy shazam”; zac parsons on facebook
- Basketball facilities for kids afterschool
- Revise trolley cars - downtown to riverfront to museums
- Involve kids - more public speakers
- Zest fest - free event - wanted to make it accessible for everyone and make it succeed without selling alcohol so it's kid friendly - Christmas parade on North Main - would be neat if there was indoor at beginning or end to continue activities
- Angel Mounds run/walk center- volunteer driven and run; greenway going to Angel Mounds; lacrosse field; food trucks - food truck festival - vote for favorite
- River run - running across bridge, expanding greenway; would like to see something happen at 1st avenue and diamond; planning farmers market at Ivy Tech
- Meditation at library - Asian Arts show at Center; hot air balloon rides and races
- Hot air balloons - Bassemeier provided propane - program needs better leadership; concerned about loosing LST; make contacts with riverboat companies incase we lose LST
- Passion for preserving Wesselman’s - wants outside community forum for learning about gardening and exercise; garden demonstrations - how to grow and cook and eat; winter events - open skating at ford center for a day - involve
- Let community learn about each others’ events
- EVPL - Monks doing mandala - music programs; idea to have Evansville Amazing Race to introduce lesser known establishments and venues
- Events throughout the year - gala - online auction, tv auction, kids fest; idea - more music festivals, blues festival paired with craft beer; don't think Taste of Evansville happens anymore - thinks it should be revived; referenced Taste of St. Louis; local youth service in place of week-long mission trips - shorter term, help our own area out
- Dance event downtown - FAWCO – Rise, Release, and Dance - women's empowerment, anti-abuse, end domestic abuse
- Working on transition to voice over IP; wants to see Evansville be a pilot site for voice over IP
- Microbrew tasting
- Kid bands and events with kid bands
- Franklin St. - wants more gathering spaces; more festivals

- Friday After Five in Owensboro - hears about things AFTER they take place; need central place to find out what's happening; what's happening with Mesker Amphitheatre? Could be music venue; farmers market at Mesker Park; community gardens for kids to learn to grow food and then sell it at public market; need central community calendar - Tracey Zeller website will post community events
- Pedal bars going down greenway, down to Haynie's corner, to Main Street Downtown
- Excited to take ideas and bring to life - downtown and arts district development and USI; Idea - take parking spots along main street and turn it into a garden or park for a month - pop-up - park for a weekend
- Concerned not to leave kids behind - how to get them transportation to get to activities
- Flyers of events to go along with online listings for people who don't have computer access
- City County Celebrator facebook page - can offer help with social media; appreciation for the arts - 20-30 club with philharmonic to attract younger audience; scavenger hunt to take people around Evansville;
- Would like Evansville to become a literary hotspot for the region; more collaborative arts activities
- Movies at the river every weekend
- Activities at zoo
- Christmas parade on north main on NOV 23; empty bowls at Haynie's corner - buy pottery and get soup in it; utilize riverfront, downtown, North Main, Haynie's corner like Franklin
- Film festival and music festival not well attended; would like place to purchase locally made art; need good community calendar
- More locally owned restaurants, not chains; kiosks around town that young professionals can rent for new business
- Bought house in arts district - build up Haynie's corner; events listing - volunteer listing opportunities
- Need more beer
- Likes Owensboro Friday after five - would like low cost events and non profit events affordable to all
- Use riverfront more often outside of 4th of July
- First Friday arts district and shops open up to public with food trucks, local heritage and art; art take over in Indy - different theme every month, artists paint on the theme and auction off works give proceeds to non profits

- Generate spirit of competition at vendor events - best of prize; promote events in consolidated manner
- Baseball at Bosse in the summer; state or semi state finals in HS basketball
- Regular concert series on the riverfront
- Greenway is close to finishing; how to make connections between free standing events
- Great music - need concentrated venue
- Cross city pot luck dinner
- Pot luck dinner all along the riverfront ending at the red bridge; pop up restaurant at Stratman's or 420 main, perhaps a project by USI
- Friday after five- will do anything to help get it off the ground
- Something along trail connecting Burdette park and USI; we have tons of events, it's just a matter of getting people to actually utilize them; library has all free events - music series; can help connect people to events and activities







**LARGE GROUP CLOSING**  
Sign up to one or every topic| what's next

**Next Experiences meeting:  
December 11, 2013  
Mesker Park Zoo  
6:00 p.m.**

**Link to Jason Robert's TEDx video:**  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntwqVDzdqAU>