

# Sustaining the Aspen Idea

## Small Group Meeting Summary

This session was held on October 13, 2010, in the Council Chambers Room. Policies are in **bold font**. Action Items are regular front. Public feedback is inserted directly under the relevant Policy or Action Item, and is in **large font, bold and italic**

### I. Rediscovering the Aspen Idea Policies & Action Items

I.1. Rediscover and sustain the original intent of the Aspen Idea.

***This should be changed to “discover” considering how little is known about the Aspen Idea.\*\*\****

***Should be “discover” and “define.”\*\*\*\****

***Start with Steve Wicks of the Aspen Institute and make accessible (grassroots, city website, etc)\*\*\*\*\****

***Spirit is most elusive, but the Historical Society does a great job with this.***

***The Aspen Idea is strong, and means many different things – music, hiking, etc***

***The Aspen Idea used to be integrated with businesses and tourism – it should be today as well***

***Mind, Body, Spirit for the good of others. This should be an opportunity to explore a united theme.***

I.1.a Research the historical roots of the Aspen Idea to help rediscover and revitalize the original concept. (*I – local organizations*)

I.1.b Establish a program to educate the community about the Aspen Idea (*LT - CR*)

I.2. Encourage collaboration among non-profit organizations, local government and local businesses.

***Like the idea of a Center for Civil Civic dialogue***

I.2.a Explore reconvening a local Council on the Arts and Humanities to promote collaboration and coordinate planning. A Council on the Arts and Humanities could:

- i) Coordinate special events so they are balanced throughout the winter and summer seasons.
- ii) Organize experiences that embody the Aspen Idea through a range of activities that balance the mind, body, and spirit.

***This action item is too intentional.***

***I like this action item***

***If city runs events, collaborate with locals and non-profits***

***Include and accommodate resident artists – concern that big non=profits dominate.***

*(I – City Manager, County Manager, local organizations)*

***Aspen Idea = our calling card = Aspen’s Identity= makes us unique = marketing\*\*\*\****

***Council on arts history was unsuccessful – dominated by larger non-profits.***

***Economic, Social, Environmental → civic tourism***

I.3. Foster greater inclusivity and participation in cultural events from within the spectrum of community residents and visitors.

***Like this is about inclusivity***

***Like Institute’s free events or reasonably priced events (music festival on the lawn, free Shakespeare festival, etc)***

***We need to include a younger demographic in this.***

***Hotel concierge = clearing house, gate keepers. We should improve their function and provide them with a semi-annual briefing\*\*\****

I.3.a Establish and leverage a comprehensive, user-friendly, web-based calendar / resource to facilitate dissemination of information and schedules of events. *(I – ACRA)*

***Should be “inclusive calendar” with every event I the valley (ACRA, museum, City, SkiCo, etc)***

I.3.b Make arts and culture, including live programming, visible in the streetscapes and landscapes of the community. *(I – City Manager, County Manager, local organizations)*

I.3.c Encourage recreational and cultural programs that support personal growth, enhance family relationships and encourage civic involvement. *(LT- Community non-profits, CR, City Manager, County Manager)*

I.3.d Create incentives for alcohol free, family friendly community events *(LT- Special Events)*

## **II. Arts Facilities Policies & Action Items**

II.1. Maintain the legacy of the Aspen Idea by enhancing and preserving our non-profit and quasi-public facilities and spaces and ensuring that development of new facilities is consistent with community goals. (see also Growth Management & Economic Sustainability Chapter)

***OK to get needs on the table. We need collaboration during planning. Should be Encourage, not Require***

II.1.a Explore amendments to the City and County Land Use Codes to include standards to ensure that when a facility expansion, re-development and/or new development is proposed it:

- Allows for use by a diverse range of people;
- Includes programs that reach outside the facility itself and into the public realm, making art and culture visible in the community;
- Facilitates meaningful and affordable local participation in its programs and offerings, and encourage local talent;
- Emphasizes renovation and adaptation of current structures
- Requires reusable materials and renewable energy in its design and construction;
- Requires collaboration with other non-profit groups during the design to broaden the utility of public space;
- Provides multi-purpose space for the Aspen Area community; and
- Maintains high quality facilities.

*(I - P, City Manager, County Manager, non-profit groups, etc)*

***I can't support all of the bullets. \*\****

***You can't legislate collaboration. \*\****

***This tells me you can't have a new building. \*\****

***Requires is too strong a word. \*\****

***This sounds reactionary, not visionary. We can't legislate too much.***

***\*\*\****

II.1.b Explore community partnerships, amendments to the City and County Codes, and other methods to prevent the conversion of civic or non-profit facilities to private use. *(I - P, City Manager, County Manager, non-profit groups, etc)*

***If the new art museum moves, convert the old museum to a performing arts center for resident performances/artists***

***Incentives should not be given for changes that would enlarge the structure.***

***Arts are important, but the Aspen character and history should not be thrown out the window in its promotion. The proposed art museum though, on the surface, a nice addition to Aspen Arts, will instead take Aspen in a very different direction in its identity and appearance. We***

***shouldn't lose sight of our history – nature and views and use of materials and architectural style that integrate and enhance and choose to form a totally new identity for Aspen. As this proposed museum – a Japanese design bamboo and glass which will forever antagonize the Aspen character and history so important to the majority of us who love Aspen – and live here – unlike most out-of-towners who are wanting this museum,***