

## Meeting Notes: April 9, 2018

After brief introductions, Laura Miller gave a presentation of the vision currently in development for Making Matters NH. (The PowerPoint slides are attached to this email.)

The core vision includes three components: 1) shared tools and workspace, 2) a commercial kitchen, and 3) mixed use space for classes, events, markets and cooperative activities with other organizations. The culture of the organization must be welcoming to people of all ages and abilities, and encourage mentorship and discovery, an opportunity to learn without judgement.

We discussed the four focus areas for working groups to take the project into the next stage of development:

- 1) **Space and Equipment**
- 2) **Organizational Structure**
- 3) **Member Relations and Outreach**
- 4) **Fundraising**

All the work done in the work groups is interdependent and will be reported back to the larger group and the core leadership team for incorporation into the business/action plan.

The group decided to stay together during this meeting and discuss the vision of the organization and break into the work groups next meeting.

The group talked about vision for the makerspace and listed the following goals and methods (objectives)...(this is just the beginning of brainstorming efforts that will be continued in focused work groups and is by no means a complete list.)

### **Goals:**

To develop a sustainable organization with diverse funding streams.

To develop a community that includes outreach to new members and organizations, educational opportunities and ways to network, mentor and share social connection.

To create a safe and accessible place where people of all ages and abilities feel welcome.

To create a space that offers financial accessibility and minimizes barriers to entry.

To create a space that encourages a culture of discovery.

### **Methods:** (This again is simply what was discussed at the meeting)

Lots of different types of membership

Mentorship opportunities

Accessible and visible location

Coherent and meaningful mission statement

Effective by-laws- mechanics of how the space will work.

Outreach to community organizations: libraries, schools, homeschool groups, charter schools, community organizations that focus on under-resourced populations, etc.

Outreach to businesses for membership and sponsorship.

Outreach to potential funders and community partners.

Wayne reviewed different types of makerspace structure. What kind of space should we be striving to create?

1. Small close-knit community of makers /Community Center  
Social networking with some shared tools- an occasional class and 500-3,000 square feet. Needs little infrastructure as it is run with volunteers.
2. Small volunteer run space  
Typically 1,000 – 8,000 square feet with 10-80 members
3. Hardware Incubator  
Typically 4,000-25,000 square feet with individuals and small businesses coming together to rent individual plots (studios) in a larger building.
4. Sustainable staffed business with diverse income/large community workshop  
Typically 8,000-40,000 square feet- features educational programs and mentorship resources. Membership affords access to tools and workspace. May include rentable storage space and studio rental. Paid staff to help support the activities of the center.

It is clear that the vision for Making Matters NH is to work toward the large community workshop (#4) eventually.

At the end of the meeting, people identified which work group interested them and we agreed to adjourn with follow up communication happening through email.

We discussed using a communication tool like Slack, Trello or a discussion group format. We were not able to come to consensus and decided to proceed with email and revisit a more efficient tool next time

If you haven't received an email with the work-group that you identified, please let us know which of the four (or more than one) that you would like to be assigned to. If you are not interested in a sub-group at this time- that's ok too, we will keep you in the loop.

Thank you again for your time and interest- spread the word!

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Miller

STEAM Team for Making Matters NH