



City of Powell, Ohio Council Planning Session

Retreat Norms/Groundrules

- Listen with respect
 - Let others finish before you start talking
 - Be attentive to the speaker
 - Disagree agreeably
- Be positive and realistic
- Be candid and honest
- Be patient
- Look for opportunities to agree
- Participate – be engaged
- Respect differences
- Be fully present
- Practice “yes, and” instead of “yes/no, but”

Retreat Purpose:

- Share perspectives on individual visions for the future of the City
- Identify important issues for the City to pursue in the coming year

Preparation

Each member of the City Council will be given 4 to 5 minutes to share "what they believe" about the future of the City and generally use the following guidelines.

- This exercise is loosely based on the "This I Believe" 1950s radio program of the same name, hosted by acclaimed journalist Edward R. Murrow the This I Believe format was reinvigorated by National Public Radio who regularly ran contemporary essays from 2005 to 2009. In reviving This I Believe, executive producer Dan Gediman said, “The goal is not to persuade Americans to agree on the same beliefs. Rather, the hope is to encourage people to begin the much more difficult task of developing respect for beliefs different from their own.” You are invited to share what you personally believe to be true about the future of the City.
 - Tell a story: Be specific. Take your belief from the events of your life that have shaped how you look at and experience "community".
 - Name your belief: Focus on a core belief - and talk about why it is true.
 - Be positive: This is what you DO believe, not what you DON'T believe - avoid speaking in the editorial "we" and make sure this is about what you believe - speak in the first person.
 - Be personal: Write in words and phrases that are comfortable for you to speak.

Agenda

Introductions

- Welcome and Introductions
- Agenda Review
- Norms and Expectations for the retreat

Agenda Item Outcome: Create a safe environment for honest exchange of ideas.

"This I Believe..."

- Each member of the governing body will be given an opportunity to share their "belief" about the future of the City.

Agenda Item Outcome: Develop an understanding of the various perspectives of individual members of the governing body.

Critical Success Factors

- What are the "big buckets" of things that must go well in order for Powell to achieve your collective vision.

Agenda Item Outcome: Develop an understanding of categories of excellence critical to Powell's success.

Goals for 2014-2016

- Identify goals for the next 18 to 24 months.

Agenda Item Outcome: Provide direction to staff on priority goals for implementation in 2014 and 2015.

Closing/Next Steps

- What support does the governing body need from staff to maintain focus on their priority issues.

Agenda Item Outcome: Clarity regarding the path forward