River Falls Town and Gown

June 2, 2014 Meeting of UW System Communities

River Falls Town and Gown Association (RFTGA)

- City of River Falls
- University of Wisconsin at River Falls
- Mission: to enhance the quality of living and learning for all members of our community.
Goals

1. Foster improved communication between the university and local citizens
2. Identify and create opportunities for mutual growth
3. Create a proactive problem-solving relationship

Initiatives

- Formalize a long-lasting program
- Highlight UWRF accomplishments and happenings in city newsletter
- City/UW annual social event
- Create landlord database ratings
- Improved transportation opportunities for UWRF students
- Student Senate involvement in City Council budget, work plans, etc.
How it started

- Current relationship was positive, but opportunities for more proactive approach.
- Research and interviews
  - ITGA: International Town and Goal Association
  - Michigan Town & Gown
- Examples of achievements
  - Renaming roads (symbolic)
  - Apps and social media to address city issues
  - Creating a community based winter obstacle course
  - Driving state grant programs to fund TGAs.
- Idea generation event to develop the mission, identify goals, and select the initial initiatives (start small)

Next Steps

- Idea generation event
- Mission
- Goals
- Charter
- First initiatives (start small)
RFTGA Members

- Mayor, City Administrator, and Chancellor - open invite
- City Council
- Student Senate
- City Staff
- Faculty Staff
- 2 students
- 2 residents

Future opportunities

- Student/Resident involvement
- Next initiatives
- How to determine what city/university decisions go the TGA and to other boards.
- Develop future state, identify current gaps, and develop strategic plan
Questions

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Charter of the
River Falls Town and Gown Association

Article I Name
The name of the association shall be The River Falls Town and Gown Association, a joint committee between the City of River Falls and the University of Wisconsin–River Falls.

Article II Mission
The mission of this association is to enhance the quality of living and learning for all members of our community.

Article III Ambitions
Three ambitions have been set to promote the achievement of our mission.
A. Foster improved communication between the university and local citizens
B. Identify and create opportunities for mutual growth
C. Create a proactive relationship

Article IV Members
Section 1. Classifications: There shall be the following classes of members:
A. City Council Representatives (2)
   a. These members are chosen by the River Falls City Council.
B. City Staff Representatives (2)
   a. These members are a City of River Falls employee, and shall be chosen by the city administrator.
C. Student Representatives (2)
   a. These members represent students at the University of Wisconsin–River Falls, and shall be Student Senate External Relations Committee Chair and President.
D. UWRF Faculty Representatives (2)
   a. These members are current faculty at the University of Wisconsin River Falls and will be appointed by the Chair of Faculty Senate.
E. Community Representatives (2)
   a. This members shall be a residents of River Falls, and are selected by
      the members of the Town and Gown.

Section 2. Eligibility
A. All members of this association must have an interest in the betterment of
   River Falls for the members of the city and of the college.
B. All members must fall into one of the membership classification and be
   selected through the appropriate channel.

Article V Officers
Section 1. Officers: The officers of this association shall be Chair and Secretary.
Section 2. Term of Office: Officers shall assume their duties at the close of the meeting at
   which they are elected. Officers shall serve for a term of 1 year or until their
   successors are elected.
Section 3. Vacancy of Office: A vacancy in any office shall be filled by a member of the
   Association.
Section 4. Duties: Officers shall perform the duties provided in this section
   A. The Chair shall:
      1. Preside over all meetings of the association.
      2. Create the agenda for meetings.
      3. Serve as official and ceremonial representative of the River Falls
         Town and Gown Association
      4. Fulfill such other duties as may be assigned by the association
   B. The Secretary shall:
      1. Record and file all minutes and documents from each meeting.
      2. Shall serve as parliamentarian.
      3. Be custodian of all Town and Gown Association documents.
      4. Fulfill such other duties as may be assigned by the association
Section 5. Elections
   A. The officers shall be elected at the meeting in May.
   B. Nominations shall be made from the floor, provided consent has been
      obtained from the nominee.
   C. Election shall be by ballot vote except when there is only one nominee for
      office, election may be by voice role.

Article VI Meetings
Section 1. Meeting: A meeting shall be held each month on the third Thursday of the month
   at 6:00 PM.
Section 2. Location: The meeting will take place on the campus of the University of
   Wisconsin–River Fall. It is the duty of the Student Senate member to acquire a
   location on the campus for each meeting.
Section 3. Quorum: Half plus one of all current members of the association shall constitute
   as quorum.

Article VII Adoption and Amendments
Section 1. Adoption: This charter shall be adopted by a majority vote of members present at the time of adoption.

Section 2. Amendments: This charter may be amended by a majority vote of the association. All motions to amend this charter shall be placed on the agenda before being voted on.