

## Manifesto Meeting Notes

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Task Force Meeting: January 22, 2007  
Greenville Forward Office

*Attendees:*

Mary Ellington, Don Koonce, Simon Crowe, Nicole Ream, Jeff Papenfus, Jay Spivey, Ryan Robinson, Russell Stall, Brock Koonce

*If I missed anyone that was here, please forgive me.*

Brock and Russell began meeting discussing the re-discovery of *Greenville's Big Idea*, a study conducted in 1950 to study the role of African American's in Greenville, and make recommendations on improving their place. They also shared another study, *Greenville's Big Idea Comes of Age*, "which is a follow-up study on where we stood on the recommendations laid forth in the original document.

Russell and Brock came upon these studies through research on the internet and discovered that these two documents have been significantly under-utilized. The second report came about due to a "re-discovery" of the original report by a Furman professor in 1986.

### Links To Documents

***Greenville's Big Idea***

[http://www.greenvillegov.org/Human\\_Relations/history/pdf/1950\\_greenilles\\_big\\_idea.pdf](http://www.greenvillegov.org/Human_Relations/history/pdf/1950_greenilles_big_idea.pdf)

***Greenville's Big Idea Comes of Age***

[http://www.greenvillegov.org/Human\\_Relations/history/pdf/1986\\_greenilles\\_big\\_idea\\_comes\\_of\\_age.pdf](http://www.greenvillegov.org/Human_Relations/history/pdf/1986_greenilles_big_idea_comes_of_age.pdf)

Discussion was had amongst the Manifesto group that too often reports, studies, surveys, etc. are done and sit on a shelf with no action coming from them. Studies get lost on book shelves, drawers, etc. This is currently happening with *The Market Street Report* conducted less than a year ago.

Greenville has always had a history of great leadership from the Business Community. Otherwise, studies like the above would never have been conducted. How can we ensure that when studies are done, something comes from them?

### Moving On...

The group moved on to discussion about projects, initiatives and programs that Greenville Forward could begin working on. What are the hottest issues facing Greenville County?

- The Young Professional groups in town need to come together and meet. The leadership of these organizations should meet on a quarterly basis and share ideas as a unified group, willing to work together to promote the young community. Greenville Forward could host a cocktail party for the leadership of the young professional

organizations in town. This could also serve as a focus group.

- ◉ Greenville Forward should be talking to the organizations that deal specifically with diversity issues (PFLAG, Urban League, SHARE, etc.) to find out what their idea of Greenville would be, if they were asked. What is their vision for Greenville?
- ◉ Youth Renaissance Weekend. This would could work in line with the first initiative. Get 3 people per organization and bring them all together for a weekend to design Greenville from the young perspective.

The meeting wrapped up by Brock asking the group to talk about what their “New Year’s / Vision Resolutions” would be for Greenville.

- ◉ Expand focus beyond Downtown Greenville. Promote the County. Expand the beauty and emphasis of Downtown to a County-wide scale.
- ◉ Ensure that Manifesto and Greenville Forward is not just another group that never gets anything done. Leave a legacy.
- ◉ Engage young leadership to be on Boards or become elected officials. Find young groups to come together to back a young candidate. Unite the young community around our next leaders.

**Next Meeting: February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007 @ 5PM. Greenville Forward Offices (tentative.)**