

ScSEED Community Forum - Report
Town Hall, Center Colorado. December 4, 2013

Guests:

Jeff Owsley, Director SBDC
Tom McCracken, Green Earth Farms
Bill McClure, Center resident
Pat Johnson, VISTA Volunteer from Mountain Valley School
Robin Lewis, VISTA Volunteer from Southwest Conservation Corps
ScSeed Board

Agenda:

Arrival & Welcome
 Sign in, Gather ScSEED Information, Complete Community Forum Survey
Powerpoint Presentation
 Introductions, 2013 Project & Activity Review
Community Input Activity

Survey Responses:

Community: Saguache (3), La Garita (1), Other (2)

Age: Under 18 (1), 18-25 (1), 36-50 (1), 51-65 (3)

What economic issues are most pressing in your community?

| | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Jobs | Job training | Poverty |
| Self Sufficient Energy | Lack of sustainable industries | Unskilled Labor |
| Low socio-economic status | Vacant store-fronts | Unwilling labor |
| No businesses | No high-speed internet | |
| Youth development | | |

What economic development opportunities would be most beneficial to your community?

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| More buildings for learning | Job training | Farmers Market |
| Kids art studio | Local Food Development | Commercial Kitchens |
| | Food Hun | New Businesses |

How can ScSEED best support the opportunities above?

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| More public forums | Networking events | Mini-grants |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------|

Community Input Activity:

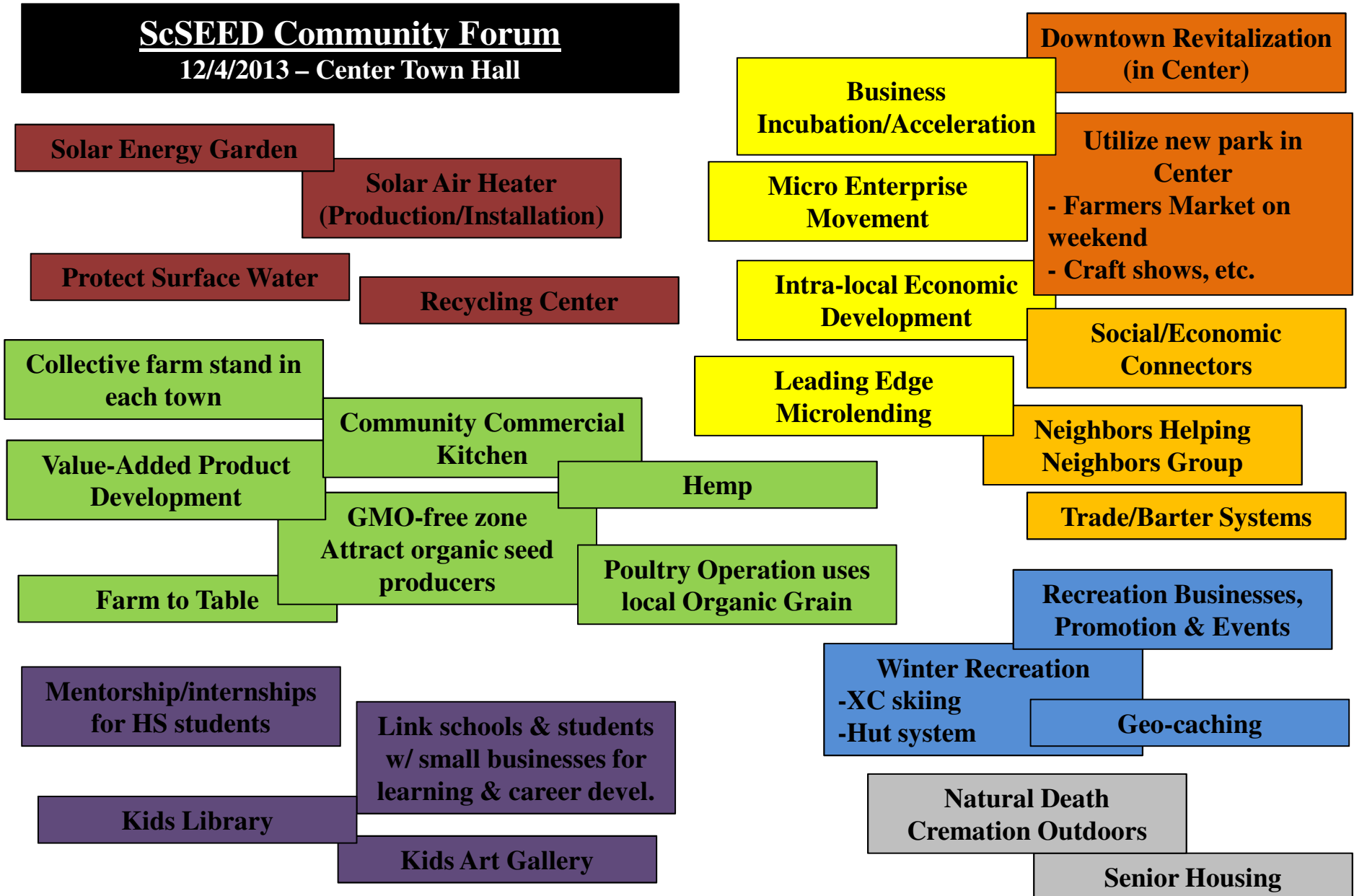
Attendees were asked to write down any idea they had for a potential economic development project in Saguache County, each on a separate post-it note. Each attendee then had a few minutes to explain their idea and items were grouped by theme. General topic areas included:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| <i>Business Development</i> | <i>Outdoor Recreation</i> | <i>Seniors</i> |
| <i>Green Energy</i> | <i>Education/Youth</i> | |
| <i>Local Food/Agriculture</i> | <i>Development</i> | |

An over-arching theme also emerged that primarily incorporated marketing of local resources through signage, social media, websites, etc. The full slate of ideas is included on page two.

ScSEED would like to thank all of the attendees who provided these insightful ideas. The Board will continue to gather input, add to, and refine this list in order to prioritize projects and outline goals for the coming year.

ScSEED Community Forum
12/4/2013 – Center Town Hall



Low-Hanging Fruit >
-Signage -Website -Social Media -(cheap, widely-used/seen)

High Visibility >
-signs -websites -apps