

## **Visioning the Community We Want**

**Imagination: The ability to be in two places at the same time:  
here and in the future  
in your experience and someone else's**

### **Telling Our Stories**

The Main Character (person, community, family)

Empathy—we identify with them

Motivation—they feel a need to act

Ability—they have the ability to get what they want

A “Spark” or turn of events that creates a problem or challenge that has to be corrected

“Escalation”--one thing leads to another, which leads to another ... until

“Resolution”—the escalation leads to a final, defining moment that either resolves everything or definitively does not.

Loose ends are tied up, lessons are learned, and the ground is set for the next Spark.

### **Common Story Lines**

- Winners and Losers
- Challenge and Response
- Comeback
- Revolution
- Cycles
- Fulfilling Our Destiny
- Window of Opportunity

### **Cooperative Listening**

- Where do you agree with who's talking?
- Where do you not necessarily agree, but what they are saying sounds plausible?
- What really stands out/strikes you about what they are saying?
- What questions do they raise?
- From what/who you know, what can you offer to help the idea progress (resources, network/influence, productive exemplars)?
- Try to give the benefit of the doubt.
- Treat new or different ideas as prototypes—try them out and improve them.