

Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes
March 11, 2010
Community Forum
(draft)

In attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Jim Losee, Jasmine Linabary, Skip Gilmore, Edd Blackler, Rick Trembath, Julie Spencer, Joe Brenneman, Bruce Solberg

Chairman Craig Wagner called the meeting to order at 12:04 PM

Agenda: The motion was made to adopt the agenda. (m/sc Losee/ Solberg) Passed

Minutes: The motion was made to adopt the minutes from January (m/sc /Blackler/Losee) Passed

Treasurer's Report: No report

North Lake County Planning: No Report

Stormwater Committee: No Report

Information Committee: Edd is hoping our summer residents will be able to furnish more pictures showing nice areas, housing and keeping Bigfork a village. He would also like to have pictures that show undesirable areas. All the pictures don't have to be in Bigfork, they can be from any area.

Dark Sky Lighting Committee: No Report

Community Report: Skip Gilmore, the Chairman of the Bigfork Park Advisory Board gave us a presentation about the needs for the Bigfork Parks. The County has been given some grants to help the parks. The grants are 75% and the communities need to help by 25%. The 25% percent can be by donations in money, also by volunteering work and or materials. . Skip mentioned the need to renovate Carlisle-Johnson so it is more user friendly to soccer, baseball, other sports and uses. Of course, more parking is needed there also. Some of the long range goals are: Chemical Toilet at Arrow Lane, upgrading playground Equipment at Potoczny Park. Basically our job is to try to make all the parks in Bigfork more user friendly to all.

Julie Spencer: Bigfork Water and Sewer: Bigfork Water and Sewer finished the first phase of the Wastewater Treatment Plant over a year ago. The Headworks Project received a statewide engineering award. We are in the final design phase of a state-of-the-art Membrane Bio Reactor (MBR) plant that will be the first of its kind in the state. The DEQ is currently working on a new, stringent, discharge permit for Bigfork due to our proximity to Flathead Lake. The Plant will produce effluent that will meet the limits of that permit. Capacity of the plant will double that of the existing treatment plant. This will make it possible to serve all of the lots currently annexed, as well as providing service to Woods Bay properties which are on septic systems. Woods Bay plans to pay their portion through hook up fees once a transmission main is installed. The \$6-7 million project will be funded by grants and a loan. Over a \$1million dollars of grants have been obtained. The rest of the portion will be paid through a State Revolving Funds (SRF) loan. Public Hearings regarding this project will be held in April or May prior to mailing out ballots for a bond election. Support for this required upgrade will be appreciated.

Chamber of Commerce: Bruce Solberg, Executive Director: reported the Brew fest was a huge success and plans for next year are already in the making. There were over 700 people, everyone had a good time. One Brewery remarked “Invite us back next year.” Three new businesses opened in Bigfork, Pocket Stone Café (still under construction), Montana Bear Foods (will have only products made in Montana and an Espresso Bar), Sunti, the Sculptor is moving into Twin Birch Square, and we lost one, Invite has gone out of business however a steak and ale business house professed an interest in the site. On March 20th 2010, Ravenwood will be having a Vino fund raiser at Brumar Estates, tickets are \$40.00. May 1, 2010 there will be a preliminary local guitarist’s presentation at the Bigfork Playhouse which is part of Crown of the Continent Guitar Foundation. They are doing fabulous things to draw in big time guitarists to the valley.

Chairman’s Report: Craig has written a letter to Ed Corrigan, the County Attorney regarding our coverage for Liability Insurance under the county. He has forwarded this query to the deputy county attorneys Craig said he would call the Montana State Attorney General for an opinion.

Old Business: None

New Business: Rick Trembath reported that his Fire Wise Grant for Bigfork/Ferndale will run out of money in April.

Meeting was Adjourned 12.42
Pat Wagner, Secretary.