

Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes
February 21, 2008
bigforksteering.org
(amended)
Community Forum

In attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Gary Ridderhoff, Edd Blackler, Darrel Coverdell, Alex Strickland, Chuck Gough, Leslie Budewitz, Denny Sabo, Stewart Harvey

Chairman Craig Wagner called the meeting to order at 12:03

Agenda: The motion was made to adopt the agenda. (m/sc Ridderhoff,/Gough) Passed unanimously

Minutes: The minutes were approved as amended. (m/sc Gough,Coverdell) Passed unanimously

Treasurer's Report: No Report No Treasurer Chuck did say nothing has changed. (m/sc Ridderhoff/Blackler) Passed Unanimously

Community Reports: Dennis Sabo introduced himself and stated he was on the Flathead County Library Advisory Board and the Bigfork School Board. At this meeting today he is representing Kim Crowley, Flathead County Library Director. He gave an overview of the joint school and County library. The library will be larger than the one proposed at Potoczny Park, they will share operating costs, will have expanded hours, be open 4 days a week and on Saturdays. It will cost the county around two hundred thousand Dollars and not a million. It is 50% larger than the original plan, and will be a center of learning for everyone. There will also be a Community Room for meetings. At this point Edd Blackler said that sounds very nice but he has serious misgivings about saddling the kids and the communities involved with a 15 year bond in a building that has serious problems and is overage. Denny asked if he could address that issue as he was here about the library. Craig said yes. Denny gave us the history of the past bond issues, how the schools get funding, and they don't have enough operating expense to support 2 separate sites. They just sold the bond for the grammar and middle school a got an interest rate of 3.4% instead of the 5% originally quoted. Denny was asked if the library had any other plans to change their situation if the school bond fails. Denny then introduced Stewart Harvey who just joined the Library Foundation Board and Stewart replied that as far as he knows there is nothing else planned. Gary Ridderhoff was concerned about the funding and was told all the people who live in school district 38 would be assessed.

Resort Tax Committee: None.

Lake County Planning: Leslie stated her group is moving forward by spending their time on the road between Woods Bay and Ferndale trying to identify existing uses of properties by using maps, checking with the county as to what has been changed, also what does actually exist. They have also been speaking with their county planner and describing how an advisory board works since there has never been one in Lake County. She may be joining their March 21, 2008 meeting. Leslie also mentioned the forest fire danger that her committee had seen on Crane Mountain and in the Bug Creek area. They have since talked to the Forest Service and it appears that they are concerned also especially in Bug Creek. So they are going to be assessing the situation and will be presenting this to the District Ranger and are hoping it will go further and be funded at a

later date. Also Leslie found the DNRC which has two service foresters who will come and give us a talk at one of our Community Forum meetings as to what is needed in our area. Leslie will have the DNRC rep on her committee help to set it up for us.

Vision Committee: The Vision committee will meet on Monday March 3, 2008 and on Monday April 7, 2008 at 12:00 at Saddlehorn Discovery Tower. They have gotten in touch with an Ned Cooney who has the expertise on helping non profit organizations in getting good results and it was suggested the vision committee might like to meet with him so that he can help us make us more efficient. It seems like every time we come up with a suggestion it falls back on money. He will sit in " pro bono" on one of our meetings. Edd wanted to know what was happening about the subcommittees the vision committee had suggested to the BSC some time ago. Craig said Drew Hubatsek is on the Lighting Committee, Bike Path and Walking trail and the Brochure are summer people and they will help when they come back. Edd also mentioned the economy and perhaps a need for centralizing information on where to purchase certain items such as produce, and trading skills for a future sustainable community.

Chairman's Report: A. We have arranged a meeting on Ambient Lighting which is shaded lighting such as IGA. Drew Hubatsek will be giving us a Power Point Presentation on this subject and also lighting that will not disturb your neighbor. It will be held on March 11, at Bethany Lutheran Church on Highway 35 at 7:00 pm in the Basement. Everyone in Bigfork, Ferndale, Woods Bay and all over are invited to this meeting. He is hoping to get the person from Whitefish that was instrumental in getting their ordinance passed. C. Craig found a web site sponsored by Hamburger Helper called MyHomeTownHelper.com, which allows you to write up your projects and file for a grant on line. Craig is going to contact Paul Mustacio of the CFBB and see if they can work together on something for Bigfork. Also we have met a friend of Jill Mehall of Creative Native, who has a friend in Woods Bay who is a retired professional grant writer. Craig will be talking to her. D. this is Pat's report on recycling.... After I got through reading the article on Corey Cullen in the Sunday Interlake I had a question so I called Valley Recycling. What I read was true! You can put all magazines, catalogs, office paper and newspapers in the blue box where it said newspapers (Bigfork 's container now says papers). Exclusions are brown paper bags (those go in with cardboard) gift wrapping, and any thing that might have a waxy content or covering. D. Craig also mentioned that we had a great meeting we last Tuesday by Rick Trembath on Firewise. It was very illuminating with regard to the fires themselves. We have already sent a thank you by email. Bigfork has wonderful equipment. Leslie mentioned Ferndale is looking for an auxiliary fire hall.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Announcements: BLUAC meeting 4:00 pm February 28, 2008 Bethany Lutheran Church.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:06

Pat Wagner, Secretary