

BLUAC Steering Committee
March 2, 2006 Minutes

In Attendance, Paul J Rana, Shelley Gonzales, Sally Janover, Brett Thuma, Clarice Ryan, Jim Eddington, Doris Gorsuch, Al Johnson, Edd Blackler, John Righetti, Chuck Gough, Gary Ridderhoff, Darrel Coverdell, Doug Averill, Paul Guerrant, Craig Wagner. Elna Darrow, Buz Meyer, Julie Spencer, Pat Wagner

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Buz Meyer at 1:03

Minutes of the February 16, 2006 were approved as emailed.
Minutes of the February 23, 2006 were approved as emailed.

Treasurer's Report

Shelley Gonzales reported no change from last month.

Committee Reports

Planning Sub-committee:

Shelley Gonzales is overseeing all of the subcommittees.

Subcommittees are meeting on a regular basis

Paul Rana from Public Utilities brought in a show and tell..... two types of electrical wiring, one narrow from 35 years ago and the thicker and more up to date wiring going into today, showing quite a difference.

Downtown and Commercial District is just about finished

Shelley should be having a meeting with the Glacier County Board of Tourism this afternoon, trying to get a breakdown on how tourists spend their money and some ideas on how to generate tourism.

John Bourquin of the Government Committee is away for 2 weeks and will hold his next committee meeting March 16, 2006 in the Library of the Bethany Lutheran Church.

Edd Blackler did state that we want to hear at that meeting any ideas that any one else has on the resort tax, and what projects the funds that it generates could be used on.

Natural Resources Chairman Elna Darrow said she has more questions than answers and would talk to Shelley. She did however, bring in a report (see attached) on Why Bigfork would not want to incorporate. The report has both pros and cons of

Incorporation.

Gary Ridderhoff said his committee will be finished in about 2 weeks and he thinks he has found some one to help with education.

Vice Chairman Buz Meyer then asked the Land Use Committee how the meeting went at the Gym since he was not able to be there. Al Johnson gave a small report. Small turnout, weather cold but lots of interest from people, especially when the zoning maps come out. Al mentioned having two more meetings one on the 16th in the evening and one in the daytime. Pat Wagner mentioned a conflict in dates. Last meeting an evening BSC

meeting was suggested and she was supposed to check with the church.. After much discussion it was changed to: We will have a short steering committee before the Land Use meeting and everyone is welcome to attend both and they will both be in the Bigfork Middle School Gym. The suggestion was also made that the BSC wear name tags at this meeting so they could answer any questions. Edd Blackler will check with the school and Al Johnson will go to both the Bigfork Eagle and Daily Interlake to make sure we get all our notices published this time. And Shelley will also coordinate with paper also.

Old Business:

Doug Averill brought up the fact there is still confusion that the BSC is trying to incorporate Bigfork; I think we need to state in the minutes and Clarice could take back to BLUAC that the BSC's whole purpose is to gather enough information, so the people of Bigfork can make an intelligent decision as to their futures in Bigfork. This should be stated in our minutes and a memo sent to BLUAC. Clarice was asked to take this back to BLUAC. She stated that she didn't believe this subject (about incorporation) even came up in the BLUAC meeting. This started a lively discussion from Elna Darrow, Buz Meyer and Pat Wagner about the exact words Jack Paulsen used. He had stated that the BSC was going to recommend incorporation (it was quoted in the minutes) and there fore he wanted the BSC to separate from The BLUAC and that he made the motion to eliminate the BSC. At that BLUAC meeting both Elna Darrow and Pat Wagner stated that was not the tenor of the committee and that is an intelligent fact finding committee.

Buz asked for a clarification on the 2 to 2 motion. Elna Darrow stated that vote was for another amendment. Jack Paulson's motion to eliminate the BSC did pass. Pat Wagner then explained the two different actions that took place that evening. The next question was by Al Johnson as to what is the effect if the BSC separates from the BLUAC. Elna then explained: "according to the county attorney at the time we came back into being the only way we would have any official standing was if we were attached to the BLUAC." Sally Janover asked what is the future of the BSC after the growth policy? It was suggested that since the BLUAC doesn't have enough time to do all their job that maybe we will be able to assist them. and that we will find another charge.

A brief discussion on the resort tax that is being looked at with scrutiny is a resort tax with an elected district board. This type of district is like the Fire district and Sewer district and has governing powers such as making decisions on where to spend the money.

Jim Eddington made a report that he had gone to a workshop with the County Attorney Jonathan Smith on Advisory boards. Mr Smith made mention that a motion that enacted on could not be reversed in the same meeting, as what took place at the BLUAC meeting on February 23, 2006. The acting Chairman, Buz Meyer then asked what kind of authority does Mr. Smith have to make that statement (about parliamentary procedure). Mr. Eddington replied I don't know. Craig Wagner researched immediately his references on Roberts Rules of Orders and later read a statement contradicting Mr. Smith. In the meantime Pat Wagner went on to explain how a new motion came about and how the BLUAC meeting ended. (See the BLUAC February 23, 2006 minutes).

Al Johnson then expressed his opinion on becoming severed from the BLUAC. Is there a possibility we can lose our franchise? I think it is important that we find out if we can just

be dismissed and all our work go for nothing and that we need to find our (BSC) alternatives. Elna Darrow suggested that we just stop fussing and see what happens in the election. Clarice Ryan said that no one was voting the BSC out of existence.” You do a worthwhile job. The relationship is what we are talking about”. Acting Chairman Buz Meyer then said to Clarice “But you voted in favor of dissolving the relationship?” “I did because I felt there was too much conflict and so much dictatorial action”. Shelley Gonzales wanted to make a point in the fact that she didn’t think BLUAC would intentionally sever the relationship or diminish the value of our work due to the fact that we had been able to raise 14,000 dollars to do the job we were to do. Buz Meyer than asked how was the BSC dictatorial? Clarice mentioned that when she went to act on the actions of the vote dismissing the two members that the work had all been done by others on the BLUAC board and that she was the Acting Chair. Buz then said that was not the action of the BSC and we never acted on that matter and we would never do so. Edd Blackler stated it was brought by 2 members of the BLUAC board and no outside group had anything to do with it.

Doug Averill expressed the fact that we are wasting too much of our time. This committee was set up to try and see if we could solve planning issues for the future of this community. When we are done it seems to me that our work is going to be filtered through a committee that does not believe in planning and our hard work will not go anywhere.anyway. I feel that maybe as a better plan, we submit this plan as a separate presentation with a high powered attorney. With the community behind us we will have more impact as opposed to going this route. We have two totally different philosophical beliefs. We have sat here for a year and a half and listened to name calling, abuse and, disrespect, and to keep batting it around is a waste of time.

At this point Buz asked Craig Wagner if he had found something in Roberts Rules of Orders pertaining to the afore questioned 2 motions from the BLUAC meeting. Craig then read from 2 sources, Roberts Rules of Orders, The Modern Version , Patnode PhD, 1989 pg 58-60 and from Roberts Rules of Orders for Dummies, Jennings 2005 pg 292 which in fact stated just the opposite of Jonathan Smith.

Pat Wagner reminded the group we will be on the agenda of the BLUAC meetings and they would like to have a report from our committee and Elna Darrow stated that it could be a member that is on both boards.

Elna Darrow then passed out our homework: a handout on the Pros and Cons of Incorporation and asked us to read it for the next meeting. (See Attached)

Clarice Ryan mentioned that so far there is nothing on the agenda from the county for the BLUAC meeting for March 23, 2006.

There was a small discussion again on the Resort tax issue, and when the Government committee will make a statement on incorporation. Elna Darrow said that John Bourquin indicated that it would be making a statement by the end of March.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:04

Pat Wagner, Acting Secretary