

Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes
February 12, 2009
bigforksteering.org
Community Forum
(amended)

APPROVED

In attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Edd Blackler, Steve Zabaro, Joe Brenneman, Sue Hanson, Katrin Frye, Gary Ridderhoff, Shelley Gonzales, Bruce Solberg, Mary Jo Naive, Julie Spencer, Chuck Gough, Peter Leander

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

Agenda: The agenda was approved as emailed. (m/sc Zabaro/Hanson).

Minutes: The minutes were approved as emailed. (m/sc Gough/Hanson).

Treasurer's Report: Steve received the current bank statement from Flathead Bank and Steve was overjoyed the figures balanced with his. Steve also had a bill from Bigfork Web Development which was erroneous and Pat will take it by their office on her way home so it can be corrected.

Pat has also misplaced a bill from UPS. She will get a copy and fax it to Steve.

Resort Tax: No report

Stormwater Committee: The Stormwater Committee, including Joe Brenneman, Mike Koopal, Debbie Pierson and Sue Hanson traveled to Helena to ask the Treasure State Endowment Program to ask for funds to upgrade the stormwater runoff area on Grand Ave. The committee was scored below the "funding line" but at least we were heard. Paul Rana and Pat Smith reported on the grant proposals for the Woods Bay sewer district which will eventually hook into Bigfork Sewer system. Paul tied all the requests together including the Stormwater Project with the issue of pollutants entering Flathead Lake. The good news is on January 21, 2009 Joe Brenneman, Russell Kinzer and Sue Hanson went to Helena to present a grant proposal to the DEQ for the final basis to upgrade the water retention system at Bigfork Public Schools. The Committee was awarded \$125, 00.00---\$70, 00.00 to be used for the school upgrade and \$30, 00.00 for Education & Outreach and for setting up a committee for Flathead County Stormwater Guidelines.

On February 25, 2009 at The Stormwater Committee meeting members will select nominees for a Stewardship Award to recognize individuals and groups that have taken extra ordinary measures to protect the water resources of Bigfork area and for the benefit of all.

North Lake County Planning: No Report. I received a note from Leslie Budewitz, the chairman. They have changed meeting dates. They are listed on the Web Site under announcements. I have tried to also enter them on your own web page but am unable to do so at this time. Waiting for a call from Bigfork Web Development.

2/20 meeting rescheduled to 2/27

3/6 meeting rescheduled to 3/13

3/20 as scheduled unless landowner letter project requires we meet on

3/27 instead

4/3 and 4/17, the usual 1st & 3rd. For now anyway.

May: 5/1 No other meetings currently scheduled.

Summer Community Meetings: We hope to schedule 2 meetings on 2 of

These 3 days depending on space availability: July 21, July 22, July 23.

Community Reports: Bruce Solberg introduced Mary Jo Naïve from the Bigfork Community Playhouse . Mary Jo is heading up a Playgroup Committee. She mentioned the new lobby should be finished in a month but the grand opening will be held at the end of the first play of the season. This group wants to reach out to the whole community and not just the downtown. They want specials for the whole community in the playhouse and are hoping to show that the playhouse is for the whole community.

Bruce also announced the Sundowner for that evening at the Sun Pizza starting at 5:00pm
The chamber is also conducting a photo contest; send your pictures to chamber@bigfork.org

Bigfork Water and Sewer: Julie Spencer reported that the new Headworks is all done and is working fine. Their next object is to pursue grants and funding so as to provide greater capacity in the Bigfork system.

Joe Brenneman, County Commissioner: Joe thanked all of us for our support of the Stormwater Committee. Joe also brought up the Villageship concept he has proposed. We are at a turning point, there seems not to be too much knowledge about this concept. within legislators and the public. Joe's question to us: Mike Jopek in the legislature is willing to introduce it for review or do we want to wait 2 more years and bring it up again. After a lengthy discussion between members it was decided we should introduce LC 0118 so that we could continue to work on the measure and get the correct information out to legislators and the public. Joe excused himself as we were going to discuss a matter that is supposed to come before him someday as Commissioner.

Bigfork Neighborhood Plan: Some Members of the BLUAC and BSC attended the workshop and again we came away empty handed with no recommendation for approval to the county commissioners. We had first a new member of the planning board show up and was accused of a conflict of interest. WE had 2 members of an outside group give exaggerated testimony. If you have been reading the Daily Interlake you hopefully have seen a couple of articles by John Stang. I will not go into a complete report on this meeting other than to say we have been trying to get this document to the commissioners for over a year along with the 4 1/2 from the very beginning. If you have any questions about this matter Craig, Pat and Shelley will be glad to talk to you on the phone with more explanation. (Wagner's 837-1037). Needless to say we were a disappointed and sad group when we left. We meet again on March 25, 2009 at The County Planning Board Room Second Floor Earl Bennett Building at So Main St. 6:00. We will also be having a strategy meeting on the March 19th in Bigfork.

Wagner's 837-1037.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:36 PM.

Pat Wagner, Secretary.