

**BLUAC Steering Committee  
October 27, 2005 Minutes**

Acting Chairman, Sue Hanson, called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM. The minutes of the October 13, 2005 meeting were approved as corrected. The minutes of the October 20, 2005 meeting were approved as mailed.

Treasurer Shelley Gonzales reported that on October 25, 2005, the Bigfork Community Foundation donated \$1,500 to the Steering Committee to help defray costs of the government workshops. There is \$2,600 in the treasury. Shelley reported that 4 Survey Booklets have been sold at Electric Avenue Books. She also reported that the Chamber of Commerce notified her that it would not be practical to sell Survey Books at the Chamber because of their limited winter hours.

**Old Business:**

Craig Wagner reported for the amendment committee. After discussion of the Amendment to the BLUAC Policies and Procedures, Denise Lang moved the committee's report be accepted as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Elna Darrow reported for the government sub-committee that she had received a communication from Alec Hansen from MLCT regarding her questions of whether Montana municipalities may cross county lines. Hansen told Elna that the incorporation statutes require a population density of 500 people per square mile, regardless of county lines. Elna indicated that none of the boundaries selected would meet that requirement.

There was also clarification regarding the workshop, scheduled November 10, 2005, with Dr. Ken Weaver on government alternatives in the State of Montana. Included in the fee charged will be the assessment of tax data on the three areas defined by the sub-committee.

Pat Wagner reported on costs to establish a website for the Steering Committee. Mike Callahan gave an estimate of \$212 to \$297 to set up the website. There is a \$10 monthly charge to update the website. Discussion centered on the value of establishing and maintaining a website for the Steering Committee. It was generally agreed that a website was a useful tool for communication and updates of the planning process. Craig Wagner made the motion that the Steering Committee establish the website. Denise Lang seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Pat Wagner read the Mission Statement and Vision to be posted on the website as follows:

**Mission Statement:** *The Bigfork Steering Committee is a non-profit, diverse assembly of community members who represent all neighborhoods within the Bigfork Land Use District. The Committee is dedicated to assisting in the planning and vision for orderly growth that stays in character with the Bigfork community and will perpetuate long term economic development. The purpose is to protect the natural beauty in concert with tasteful growth unique to the surroundings. This can only be accomplished through careful planning. In order to preserve the village atmosphere and small community environment, as well as improve the quality of life and general welfare of the community, this Committee is dedicated to orderly and planned growth. The purpose is to provide a public platform for input and information to achieve these purposes.*

**Vision:** *We believe it is essential that growth and development within the Bigfork area be complimented by the preservation of the natural and cultural heritage that we now possess. Let our legacy be identified with social, economic and ecological responsibility.*

Please contact members of the website committee (Pat Wagner, Shelley Gonzales & Sue Hanson) if there are any suggestions for refining the Mission Statement and Vision.

There will be a presentation of the Survey Results for the Lake County Commissioners on Wednesday, November 2, 2005, 10:30 AM. Future neighborhood presentations were discussed. It was

suggested that more members be available to do presentations. Sue Hanson and Denise Lang will update their laptops and be available for presentations.

The meeting place for the workshop by Dr. Ken Weaver was discussed. Since the Bethany Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall will be in use for the church's Lutefisk dinner, it was decided to move the workshop to the Flathead Lake Lodge. Russ Miller will see that this is noted in the Bigfork Eagle and Secretary Hanson will contact the Lakeshore Country Journal and email reminders to everyone on the email list. It was suggested that a sign be placed at the Lutheran Church as well. Clarice Ryan will contact other neighborhood groups to see if they would like to send a delegation to the workshop. It was suggested members bring snacks, cookies, desserts, etc. for the workshop.

Discussion was held regarding the location for future Steering Committee meetings. Although the lunches at both La Provence and The Launch were good and both restaurants very accommodating, it was generally agreed that the set-up and atmosphere at the Bethany Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall was less confining and easier to hear and see who is talking. Some commented that the meeting lasted longer when lunch was served. Others commented that the church was more comfortable surroundings for new comers to the meetings. Craig Wagner made the motion that the Steering Committee returns to Bethany Lutheran Church for future meetings. Denise Lang seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM

Sue Hanson  
Secretary