

BLUAC Steering Committee
December 1, 2005 Minutes

In attendance: Sue Hanson, Vince Taylor, Warren Gardner, Jane Leivo, Chuck Gough, Liz Coutts, Gil Coutts, Gary Ridderhoff, Clarice Ryan, John Bourquin, Sally Janover, Craig D. Wagner, Pat Wagner, Brett Thuma, Paul J. Rana, Rose Schwennesen, Shelley Gonzales, Bruce Peachy, Charlotte French

Old Business:

Minutes of November 17, 2005 were approved as mailed.

Treasurer Gonzales reported \$2,700 in treasury.

Shelley Gonzales chaired the meeting in the absence of Loranger and Meyer. Reports from committees as follows:

Growth Plan Sub-Committee: Shelley Gonzales reported she had emailed the structure of the sub-committees to all who had volunteered to date. Added to the list are Jane Leivo on Housing, Paul Rana on Public Facilities and Jean Hagan has offered her services as a resource person for the Local and Social Services committee. Shelley suggested each committee view the list of other County Growth Plans noted in the email to see what other areas have done. She is looking for simple "bullet point" analysis backed up by statistics. She wants each committee to define "Where we are today." And "Where do we want to go?". Flathead County Planning Office is emailing issue papers on four categories. Residents can access the Issue Papers on the Planning website: co.flathead.mt.us The sight also offers a sign-up for any who would like to receive email updates on the planning process.

By-Laws: Craig Wagner reported that the revision was almost complete and consisted of three pages. He expects a finished copy by the December 8, 2005 meeting. As in the BLUAC Policies and Procedures, Robert's Rules of Order are the authorizing guide.

Government: John Bourquin reported that the 2000 U.S. Census would determine population density for determining borders of an incorporated community. The committee has looked at tentative boundaries with help from the Flathead County GIS department. An area of approximately 2.8 square miles may fit the density requirements comprising of the Bigfork Village area, West to Eagle Bend and the Hwy 35 corridor to Streeter's Corner. The next step is to consult with Tom Reynolds of the Flathead GIS department to determine property values for a tax base. The committee is also considering the possibility of changing the Bigfork Land Use Zoning District to a Community Council as it has more "teeth" than a Zoning District. Should the Woods Bay area and Swan Lake area in Lake County show interest in joining the Bigfork Zoning District, it would be necessary for both Flathead and Lake County Commissioners to approve a plan that crosses county lines. Those communities would need to be active in the process if that is to happen. The committee is also looking into the Resort Tax possibilities.

Public Meeting: Sue Hanson reported that Swan River School will pass out flyers December 2, 2005, notifying residents of the next Public Meeting at Swan River Hall on December 7, 2005, 7:00 PM. The committee plans to have light snacks and coffee for this meeting. Craig Wagner will bring the maps produced for the October Pubic Meeting.

There was brief discussion regarding the November 29, 2005 Public Meeting conducted by the Flathead County Planning Office. Warren Gardner expressed that he thought it would be useful for the comments of those attending be expressed openly rather than on cards. He felt it would stimulate ideas and give attendees the opportunity to hear what others are thinking about planning. Several others expressed the same feelings, noting that there are so many aspects to planning that all ideas should be aired openly to give each person the opportunity to think about other views.

Shelley Gonzales asked everyone who will be working on Planning Sub-Committees to stay after the meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM

Sue Hanson, Secretary