

**BLUAC Steering Committee  
February 09, 2006 Minutes**

In Attendance: Buz Meyer, Denise Lang, Paul Rana, Shelley Gonzales, Gil Coutts, Liz Coutts, Bob Gorsuch, Doris Gorsuch, Sally Janover, Doug Averill, Brett Thuma, Leslie Budewitz, Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Julie Spencer, John Bourquin, Owen Sutherland, Clarice Ryan,, Edd Blackler, Chuck Gough, Darrel Coverdell, Al Johnson

Vice Chairman Buz Meyer called the meeting to order at 12:10

Agenda was accepted

**Minutes:**

Minutes of the February 2, 2006 meeting were accepted as emailed.

**Treasurer's Report:**

There was no report at this time.

**Planning Subcommittees:**

Shelley reported the following: She mailed the outlines to her subcommittees on February 7, 2006. The outlines were meant to be an aid for them. Housing is coming along and will have a meeting on February 14, 2006 at 4:00 pm at Rocky Mountain Bank. Public Services will meet Tuesday February 14, 2006, 10:00, at Gary Ridderoffs home. Downtown had a meeting yesterday on February 8, 2006. Land Use and Community Interaction combined their meeting. Al Johnson, chairman of the Land Use Committee reported that he has placed an ad in the Bigfork Eagle and the Daily Interlake announcing a meeting on February 16, 2006 at the Bigfork Middle School from 7:00 pm to 9:00. This meeting is to be held for all Bigfork residents to let their land use wishes be known so that the Steering Committee can inform the planning department working on the growth plan. Shelley mentioned that Clarice had called her about the map in the library. It was in disarray, no one was looking at it, the book of codes had disappeared and suggested the map should come down. Craig Wagner volunteered to retrieve, repair it and bring it to the public meeting on February 16, 2006 , 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM at the Middle School Gym.

John Bourquin reported that Sheriff Jim DuPont visited the meeting to give information on a having police services in an incorporated city. Sheriff DuPont mentioned that it would be much less expensive to contract from the Sheriff's office than to have your own force. He would recommend one officer to be assigned to Bigfork, on a 40 hour week. Bigfork would sign a contract as to the specific duties that deputy would handle. There is a mutual aid agreement in effect but other expenses could occur on occasion. The Startup expense would be approximately \$85,000 which would include equipment, car, radio, etc. He also talked about the 911 system. He gave a lot of insight to the working of the Sheriff's Dept. At the present time they are short on manpower.

#### **New Business:**

Doug Averill then mentioned to Clarice Ryan as a member of BLUAC, there seems to be a misunderstanding about the purpose of the Bigfork Steering Committee (BSC) and BLUAC. He further wanted to know why the BSC was being constantly attacked and referred to as gangs. Clarice Ryan then answered that the BSC has been very successful. "The BSC has formed a very strong, productive, worthwhile organization with a lot of communicating with the public, a lot of input, a lot of participation and you are very, very successful with that aspect. Maybe the BLUAC has not been doing their job as well as they should." Clarice stated. "We need to take another look at our bylaws and not duplicate what you are doing; you are doing a good job. Originally we were supposed to be the head group, but you were so talented and have very efficient people and just went ahead and did things. You are so organized and so comprehensive of things you just go ahead and do it." She also stated maybe we need to separate the two groups. Edd Blackler stated: "originally the BLUAC was formed under the umbrella of the original steering committee in 1993. The BLUAC has not paid attention to their original charge and so the present steering committee is coming in to play. The BLUAC needs to pay attention to their original charge and bylaws. There are a large number of applications but it doesn't mean they all need a positive recommendation. Of course the nature of the BLUAC is an advisor but there should be some keeping to the original intention of the purpose and adhering to the bylaws that were essentially created by the original steering committee and that is the way it should play out." An unfriendly statement from a BLUAC member was quoted from the Bigfork Eagle and discussed briefly. Many members voiced their opinions. Many questions asked, many instances sited, lack of cooperation, density was brought up, examples of zoning run amuck such as Vail and

Aspen The word got out to developers that Flathead County has limited restrictions and now 2 years later we are looking at the results stated Doug Averill. "BLUAC can't solve all the problems stated Clarice. We all need to work together". Suggestions were made as to how to solve this problem with nothing really decided.. The BLUAC was invited to attend at least one BSC meeting to familiarize BLUAC with the extensive effort to involve the community in future planning in Bigfork and Clarice will take that to the BLUAC.

**Announcements:**

Government Committee will meet one hour before the Steering Committee, 11:00 on February 16, 2006

This meeting and the Steering Committee with Ken Weaver will be held at the Community United Methodist Church, 750 Electric Ave Bigfork. (Actually go down Commerce St and the Church is about a block away from the Bigfork High School).

February 16<sup>th</sup> 2006 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm a land use meeting for all Bigfork Residents is being held at the Bigfork Middle School Gymnasium. (Tell all your neighbors)!!

**Meeting was adjourned at 1:10**