

Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes
May 14, 2009
bigforksteering.org
Community Forum
(amended)

In attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Gary Ridderhoff, Edd Blackler, Chuck Gough, Shelley Gonzales, John Bourquin, Leslie Budewitz, , Joe Brennemen, Steve Zabaro, Sue Hanson, Jim Losee, Paul Guerrant, Paul Mustacio

Chairman Craig Wagner called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Agenda: The motion was made to adopt the agenda. (m/sc Gonzales/ Hanson) Passed

Minutes: The minutes for April 9, 2009 were approved as emailed. (m/sc Gough/Zabaro) Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Steve reported no activity this month Balance remains the same \$1761.25 (m/sc Ridderhoff/Gough) Passed

North Lake County Planning: The committee has been reviewing the letters which were sent out to residents for their ideas, wishes and thoughts. So far they have a 15% return with mixed answers. Because Lake County has regulations, the North County Planning Committee will be writing their plan with regard to Lake County's Regulations which is different than Bigfork's Growth Plan. Their meetings are still being held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month at Saddlehorn Discovery Tower at 9:00 am and the two Public Meetings on July 21 and 22. (See North Lake County's page on the web site—www.bigforksteering.org).

Stormwater Committee: Sue Hanson announced the awarding of 2 other grants to the committee. Due to the stimulus funding by the U.S. Government the Treasure State Endowment Plan (TSEP) was able to free more funds and the Bigfork Stormwater was the recipient for some of those funds .These funds along with other funds from the DEQ 319 (already granted) should finish Step One of our recovery to halt pollution of Bigfork Bay and Flathead Lake. Sue also took pictures during the street cleanup and captured several places of pollution as the water was discharged through the system with most of it ending at the bridge. Paul Mustacio mentioned that the CFBB will be working closely with the Stormwater Committee in the planning of their downtown projects. Sue also stated we are well on the way to addressing Phase 1 but the need for future and constant testing will always be present.

Community for a Better Foundation (CFBB): Paul Mustacio, President of the CFBB mentioned their annual dinner is being held at the Flathead Lake Lodge, Tuesday May 19, 2009 at 6:00 PM, at \$25.00 a person. They will be having a tribute to Elna Darrow and also awarding the Big Hat Award. If anyone is interested in learning about the CFBB and perhaps joining the group they are welcome to attend. Paul also has written a letter to the Commissioners and stated his wish for the Neighborhood Plan to be adopted. Leslie mentioned that she had brought up to Kim Crowley, Director of the Library, the prospect of a Library Board being established in Bigfork to aid in the acquisition of a better library for this area. Paul replied that the Library was committed now to the Library in Columbia Falls and to acquiring a better Main Library in Kalispell. Some improvements were made

recently to the Bigfork Library but right now funds are not available. The County has established a County Advisory Board and now the answers have to come through the county.

Joe Brenneman: Joe related a recent event that took place. He and an engineer were looking at areas in the village and the engineer discovered a storm drain which had not been hooked up. This drain was in the area which probably aided in the flooding of Sally Janover's property and that of her neighbor along with runoff from the reconfigured school parking lot. The engineer said there were funds in the DEQ to repair this problem. Thanks to Sally's original complaint at the Community Forum of the BSC we now have the Stormwater Committee helping Bigfork stopping pollution past and future. Shelley Gonzales as Chairman of the BLUAC asked Joe about sign violations and the ability to act on them. Joe replied the County and the County Attorneys are focusing on the large billboards at the present time and are preparing legal action. Also only the City of Kalispell, because of ordinances, has jurisdiction over sign violations.

Chairman's Report: The Resort tax Committee has been changed to The Bigfork Enhancement Contribution. The state requirements will not let us have a viable Resort Tax area so Cheryl Richmond has done research and has found that a Voluntary Contribution could be a method of raising money for the Promotion of Bigfork, especially to aid business in the winter, and to help with other projects in the village. Cheryl held a meeting in the new lobby of the Bigfork Summer Playhouse (which is beautiful) to explain how this contribution would work. One important fact is that it is strictly voluntary. For more complete information please call Cheryl Richmond at 837-1447 They have a P.O. Box 2314 at Bigfork.

Craig also mentioned that the BSC needs to update their by laws to reflect we are meeting once a month now as the Neighborhood Plan is completed. We need to change voting requirements to reflect this change. A by-law sub-committee was formed to rewrite these areas headed by Sue Hanson; members are Jim Losee and Steve Zabaro.

Craig mentioned we will need to look into ways of affording our Liability Insurance if we are to continue as the Bigfork Steering Committee.

Chuck Gough: Chuck is a member of the Friends of the Bigfork Fire Department and he mentioned that the Golf Tourney, Tennis Tourney and Burger, Brats and Music will be held on Sept. 11, 2009. Wayne Loffler will assume the duties of Firechief on July1, 2009.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:33

Pat Wagner, Secretary