

DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC VISION STEERING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: August 14, 2007

Time: 9:30 am – noon

Place: Sooke Regional Museum Meeting Room

In Attendance: W. Fritz (chair), Rosemary Jorna, Cleo Gardner, Rosemary Metz, John Charles, Emma Taylor, Arnie Campbell, Max Kuo, Sid Jorna

Regrets: Alanda Carver, Heather Phillips

Introductory Comments

After welcoming Rosemary Metz as a new steering committee member, W. Fritz provided a brief overview of the background, purpose and organization of the steering committee.

1. Approval of the Agenda
Approved – Moved by A. Campbell, Seconded by E. Taylor
2. Approval of July 24/07 Meeting Minutes
Approved – Moved by A. Campbell, Seconded by R. Jorna
3. Appointment of Recording Secretary – John Charles by rotation
4. Reports of Working Sub-committees
 - a) Gathering Information
A. Campbell provided a description of the spreadsheet being developed to document key contact persons. A draft version will be circulated to steering committee members for feedback purposes. R. Metz indicated that she could also share information on contact persons she had developed for the Shirley Governance Sub-committee. .

Approximately 40 background reports/studies have been identified to date and one-page abstracts prepared for approximately 25. Volunteers to complete this work are asked to contact Arnie.

A meeting is to be scheduled for late August with CRD staff to discuss obtaining socio-demographic data for Otter Point and Shirley. Current census data being analyzed by CRD staff show the following:

Otter Point	Shirley	
1,660	436	permanent residents
828	227	dwellings

b) Funding

W. Fritz reported that \$8000 had been obtained to date in grant funding through the JDF Regional Director, the JDF Economic Development Commission and the

Real Estate Foundation of BC. An additional \$5000 had been applied for through BC Healthy Communities and Vancity. Their funding decisions are expected in September and November respectively. The subcommittee had decided to not make a funding application to Mountain Equipment Co-op at this time.

E. Taylor reported that total project expenditures to date amounted to \$705. All funds have been applied for and are being administered for the project by OPSRRA as a registered non-profit society.

c) Publicity/Communication.

A. Campbell circulated for feedback a document outlining the proposed steps to publicize the next public information forum (roadside advertisements, newspaper advertisements, community bulletins, mail-out flyers, etc). Suggested additions included finding a way to advertise using radio services and targeting information to the JDF Economic Development Commission and small local businesses in Otter Point and Shirley. There was some discussion about using community bulletins and the forum agenda to also circulate background community and economic development information.

A. Campbell reported that A. Carver had established a project website at www.jdffuture.org. Committee members were encouraged to examine the website and provide feedback to Arnie and Alanda about its content and features. They were also asked to advise Arnie of any concerns about having their name, tel.# and email address listed on the website for the duration of the project. Information about the ongoing cost of the website will be provided for the next steering committee meeting.

W. Fritz reported that A. Carver is also working to establish a “discussion mechanism” on the website through which individuals accessing the website can leave public comments about the project. Erik James has agreed “moderate” these comments.

A. Campbell reported that C. Gardner and W. Fritz had submitted articles to the Rural Observer dealing with governance and the Rural Land Use Forum respectively.

5. Gathering Information and Documentation

W. Fritz reported that as the funding sub-committee was now likely to be relatively inactive, other than reporting on expenditures, its members could shift their efforts to deal with documenting the information presented at the public forums and the decisions made at community workshops. He also suggested that it could also be merged with the “gathering information sub-committee” as there was some overlap of activities. There was agreement to proceed in this manner.

C. Gardner volunteered to sit on the Publicity/ Communications Sub-committee while R. Metz agreed to sit on the Gathering Information Sub-committee.

6. Planning for the Next Public Information Forum

There was general agreement to proceed with the next public information forum focusing on “Economic Development and Community Change”. W. Fritz reported that he had booked the Otter Point Fire Hall for this event on the evening of Tuesday September 25, 2007 with October 2, 2007 as a possible back-up date. There was a general discussion of proposed questions to be raised through the forum. Committee members were asked to forward any further thoughts to W. Fritz. A list of possible speakers for the forum was reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that:

- E. Taylor will follow up on obtaining a speaker, likely through the CED Network, to focus on the “development of a new rural economy”;
- A. Campbell would follow-up on obtaining a speaker with Vancouver Island experience in economic development leading to community change; and
- W. Fritz would follow-up in obtaining a speaker with experience in planning for economic development and community change.

W. Fritz suggested that the process of documenting the forum presentations and Q&As should be discussed at the next steering committee meeting.

7. General Discussion of Project Planning

a) Meeting with Advisory Committee

A. Campbell proposed that the steering Committee meet with the project advisory committee to review what had been done and to discuss next steps for the project. W. Fritz suggested that this could be scheduled after the next Forum. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next steering committee meeting.

b) Third Information Forum

W. Fritz suggested that the steering committee consider holding its third public information forum in late November and that it have an environmental protection focus.

8. Using the Vision Project and Governance Sub-committees to Prevent Annexations

A. Campbell reported that the Otter Point JDF Governance Sub-committee wished to explore the idea of whether the JDF Regional Director, the Shirley JDF Governance Sub-committee, OPSRRA and the Developing a Strategic Vision Steering Committee were interested in collaboratively requesting the provincial government to delay dealing with any new property annexation requests for at least the next year until the various committees had completed their work dealing with governance. There was general agreement with this idea. Arnie will report back on discussions with the key individuals.

W. Fritz noted that the steering committee was likely to hold a public information forum dealing with governance sometime in early 2008 and wondered if the Shirley and Otter Point JDF Governance Sub-committees were interested in collaborating in

the planning and management of this forum. A. Campbell and M. Kuo agreed to raise the idea with their respective governance sub-committees and report back. .

9. Next Meeting

The next steering committee will be held on September 11, 2007, beginning at 9:30 am.

E. Taylor will check to see if a meeting room can be booked at SEAPARC.

10. Adjourn

A. Campbell made a motion to adjourn.