

MINUTES

DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC VISION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: September 11, 2007

Time: 9.30-Noon

Place: SEAPARC, Sooke

In attendance: W. Fritz (chair) Cleo Gardner, Heather Phillips, John Charles,
Arnie

Campbell, Rosemary Metz, E. Taylor

Regrets: Alanda Carver, Rosemary Jorna

1. Approval of Agenda
Approved – Moved by A. Campbell, Seconded by E. Taylor
2. Approval of minutes.
Approved – Moved by J. Charles, Seconded by A. Campbell subject to
changing item #6 to read “October 2” rather than “September 2”.

3. Appointment of Recording Secretary- R. Metz by rotation

4. Reports of Working Sub-committees

- a) Gathering Information

A.Campbell described a recent meeting with CRD personnel to
discuss the
Developing a Strategic Vision Project. John Charles, Wayne Fritz,
Arnie
Campbell and Rosemary Jorna met for two hours with Kelly Daniels,
Kris
Nichols and Tracy Corbett. Issues discussed included:
- the background and objectives of the Developing a Strategic Vision
Project;
- whether and how the CRD could assist in making data available;
- inaccuracies in some CRD maps for Otter Point and Shirley; and
- the CRD budgeting process for the JDF Electoral Area.

It was agreed that Tracy Corbett would be the CRD contact person for
data
requests for the project and that another meeting should be held in the
next 3-4
months.

A.Campbell showed an outline of a spreadsheet he was developing to record information about key contact persons (i.e. name, address, department information). R. Metz described the Index she had developed to use in recording and summarizing letters, reports, etc. for another project. There was general consensus that proceeding with the development of the spreadsheet for contact persons would be useful.

A.Campbell reported that work was proceeding on summarizing background studies/reports and that more volunteers were required so that each study/report could be summarized by two people. Heather Phillips agreed to head the gathering information sub-committee in place of A. Campbell who wished to focus more on publicity/communication activities.

A.Campbell reported that Western Forest Products (WFP) had recently advertised extensive amounts of forest lands in the Shirley & Jordan River area for sale.

(Almost 50% of the land area within the Shirley/Jordan River OCP area was for sale.) A. Campbell will be issuing a special edition of the monthly OPSRRA newsletter which summarizes the available information, including maps of the proposed sale areas.

b) Funding

W. Fritz reported that a total of \$8,000 in grant funding had been obtained to date, that a grant application to BC Healthy Communities had been unsuccessful, and that a grant application of \$2,500 to Vancity still outstanding. E. Taylor reported that the grant of \$5,000 from the Real Estate Foundation of BC had been received and that the current bank balance for the project was \$7, 294.37. R. Metz voiced concern about what the Real Estate Foundation expected in exchange for their financial support. It was noted that the Steering Committee had committed itself to:

- hold public information forums to stimulate public discussion dealing with rural land use, environmental protection, economic and community service development, local governance and zoning bylaws,
- hold community workshops to discuss land use issues and recommendations for changes to current practices and policies; and
- to hold a community wide forum where participants will decide on specific land use recommendations that will make up a community vision document.

c) Publicity/Communications

A.Campbell reported that a letter had been sent to BC Healthy Communities requesting that they consider funding the Development of A Strategic Vision as an ongoing project if all allotted program monies are not spent in this fiscal year. .

A.Campbell reported that the August 2007 edition of the Rural Observer contained an article by C. Gardner on local governance, an article by W. Fritz on the Rural Land Use Forum, and an advertisement for the Developing a Strategic Vision Project.

A.Campbell also reported that A. Carver had incorporated more information into the website (minutes, communication bulletins, etc.) and was examining how to incorporate an interactive component for the project. Another project communication bulletin will be distributed before the next Information Forum.

5) New “Event Documentation” Working Sub-committee

W. Fritz reported that an “Events Documentation” Sub-committee consisting of W. Fritz, E. Taylor and R. Jorna had been established with responsibility to document project events on an ongoing basis. A key task for the Information Forums will be to develop notes on the speakers’ presentations which can be subsequently used as a record of the event. This is to be done by having two or more persons independently make notes on each presentation, then jointly consolidate these notes, and then have the speakers review and make changes to the notes where appropriate. There was discussion about taping or videoing the Forums but this was not considered essential.

6) Planning for the “Economic Development and Community Change” Forum

a) Status of Speakers

E. Taylor reported that Mona Brash from the Dept. of Political Science at the

University of Victoria had agreed to speak on economic development lessons

learned with a focus on the Silverspray experience of East Sooke.

W. Fritz reported that Gerrard LeBlanc, an ex-CRD planner, had agreed to

speak on economic development and community planning.

E. Taylor reported that she was still trying to contact Nicole Chaland of the

Community Economic Development Network to speak on rural economic

development but had concerns about the potential costs. Other possible

speakers were considered and discussed. A. Campbell agreed to contact a local developer as a possible speaker.

b) Date of the Forum

Oct 2, 2007 from 7-9:30 p.m. at the Otter Point Fire Hall

c) Moderator

Arnie Campbell agreed to be the moderator at the forum.

d) Publicity/Communications

A. Campbell outlined the use of flyers, community bulletins, street signs, written invitations and a newspaper advertisement to publicize the forum.

e) Event Documentation

W. Fritz indicated that the "Events Documentation" Sub-committee would be responsible for creating a record of the speakers' presentations at the Forum.

7) General Discussion of Next Events

a) Advisory Committee

A. Campbell proposed that a meeting with the project Advisory committee be planned to update advisory committee members on project activities, to obtain feedback and advice, and to recruit additional advisory committee members.

After general discussion of pros, cons and options, it was decided to plan for such a meeting in early 2008.

b) "Environmental Protection and Change"

W. Fritz suggested for discussion purposes that the 3rd Public Information Forum be held in late November, be titled "Environmental Protection and Change" and focus on jurisdictional responsibilities, environmental protection standards and building development standards. There was discussion about the importance of also addressing water as an environmental

and developmental issue. Two potential speakers were suggested.

More

detailed planning for the forum will be scheduled for the next meeting.

a) Governance Options and Impacts

W. Fritz suggested that this issue be considered at a later meeting as the focus of another public information forum in early 2007. R. Metz noted that TILMA would impact on any form of local governance and needed to be considered.

8) Update on Annexation Discussions

R. Metz reported that at a September 4, 2007 meeting of the Shirley Governance

Committee with the Regional Director Eric Lund, there was little support for the

idea of forwarding a joint letter to the provincial government requesting a moratorium on any local annexations until after the strategic vision and various

governance committee recommendations had been completed. A. Campbell

noted that the past few meetings of the larger JDF Governance Committee had

been cancelled and that there was consequently little information to report

There was some follow-up discussion about the use of community petitions with

the provincial government and the importance of following petition procedures

established by the provincial legislature.

9) Next Meeting Date

Not discussed

10) Meeting adjourned - 12.10 p.m.