

SEELEY LAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
December 6, 2010 – SEELEY LAKE HISTORICAL "BARN"

PRESENT: Adreïn Marx, MaryAnn Morin, Steve Johnson, George Frasca and Jack Greenwood

ABSENT: Walt Hill, Carol Evans

Guest: Pat O'Herren, Missoula County Rural Initiatives

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST: Gullikson completed minutes from digital recording

Meeting commenced at 6:00 p.m. Marx noted enough Council members are present for a quorum.

MINUTES: Morin moved for approval of minutes from the June meeting. Johnson seconded. No changes. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Morin reported \$2665.19 in checking plus the Trails Account checking totals \$7569.32. Plus 2 CD's totaling \$4763.38 for total assets of \$14,997.89.

Morin moved for approval of Treasurer's Report and Johnson seconded. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letter from USDA (Lolo National forest) mailing list update request. Marx record Nov. 29 public hearing of nation resource and Conservation at Spurgin Rd. office, Missoula. Proposed amendment and adopt o Copy of letter to Pat O'Herron of request for funding for Communications Project. No other communications.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT: Marx provided an update on duties performed.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: none brought forward.

NEW BUSINESS:

New Tax District Boundaries Map: (Draft only) by Nate Rogers for MC. Overlay map which includes each of the infrastructure districts to examine and review for MC to update. Pat O'Herren explained that Rogers is a recent addition to MC staff. Explored how to best serve our County GIS time and use his experience in Grant Co., WA. O'Herren then did a short presentation and opened up discussion and questions. Public input added that information was needed for who can run for what and residential requirements of each. Electronic copies were requested. Each district will be given a copy of their particular district and have a chance for input into the final result.

Branding: Economic Development had looked at it last month. Gullikson is asking for more community involvement and is very interested in this project and will invest the time. Morin stated that, "if we can build a Stonehenge in town" maybe we can get welcome signs and branding! Gullikson had previously sent Council Members a photo of a welcome sign the Columbia Falls community succeeded in installing at either end of town. We are hoping council would put some support behind these projects and move forward. Interaction of Chamber of Commerce would be critical, but it goes beyond the businesses. Jenkins volunteered to be involved as well. It is the way an area will be "perceived character" vs. reality. Can be visual, fun place, business place, informal, formal, look like vs. sound like. Specifically unique? It can be a simple "Tag line". It may be registered (logo, icon). Example: *Reese and Trout* are positioning experts.

MOTION: Morin motioned for the Seeley Lake Community Council to network interested parties in our community toward in creating a Brand for Seeley lake and surrounding area. Greenwood seconded. All in favor.

Economic Development: Johnson gave an update stating the Branding is one area of discussion going on. Next meeting is Thursday, Dec.9th and the committee is still thinking of a route to follow. Proposed a contest for project. No direction on that as yet. Discussion is ongoing.

OLD BUSINESS:

AIR QUALITY: Jenkins saturation study is requesting 6 additional monitors. Greenwood reported that news in Kalispell stated air quality in Seeley Lake is terrible! Jenkins will check into further mitigation- to understand the neighborhood effect we are under - and that it is not the entire area. Jenkins will check this week to see what can be done. Branding will overcome negative perception. Patrick Constantinides read results aloud from State EPA Warning. "Citation warning for SL in Missoula County Stagnation conditions exist...." He suggested the state needs appropriate wording for the warnings.

#### TRAILS COMMITTEE UPDATE:

Report by Carol Koepcke. SL Ranch easement worked its way to P O'Herren. Mr. Scot Smith is interested in easement and FS in accepting. Letter of intent to donate is next. Letter is being worked on. He asked for a sketch, but it is not clear what that is yet. O'Herren gave a brief history of the "trail concept" in LUP process. Need a group to 'accept' the land parcel and the SLCC cannot be that group. Non-motorized means that snowmobiles can use it but not motorcycles nor ATVs. Liability issue was a concern. Tim Love has said the forest service can be involved in this project. It will be a big expense to USFS. Love asked if Missoula Co. can provide in kind services. O'Herren reported that Public Works will provide some of the necessary work.

#### Communications Project Funding:

Marx informed Council that outside funding is required for the position to continue and the Council needs to be proactive. Gullikson and Evans are working on a grant proposal to the Seeley Lake Community Foundation. An idea needs explored tonight and approved: Council may be able to advertise for a grant writer that would be paid by contingency on success of grant award. Similar thing done elsewhere-the fees to the writer are added within grant administrative fee. Comments and suggestions. Discussion by members.

MOTION: Morin motioned to advertise for a local grant writer to pursue a grant contingent upon availability of an appropriate contractor. Discussion. Don't know % on fees. Writer will need to do "Follow up", etc. and report back to Council. O'Herren was asked if SLCC may be involved in that sort of contract? Council suggested O'Herren be more proactive for us! Can Seeley Lake Community Foundation grant continue? Not sure on this issue and is confusing with Federal Laws. If money can be found for this position elsewhere then the Foundation money can be used here in Seeley Lake for other uses. It is considered an 'unfunded mandate" by the County. Only \$1000 is paid to run the Seeley Lake Community Council annually.

Call for question: Motion on floor. Frasca seconded. Motion passes.

ALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL: Greenwood, Marx and Gullikson attended. Second year. SuZanne Miller presented a survey done for Mineral Co. and she proposed it be considered by Missoula Co. as well. Information used for decision making for planning for the entire county. Marx reported that her personal feeling was it was not the time to do this- rather have Co. spend it on our communications project. Greenwood concurred. Marx and Greenwood were asked to present this project to the rest of the Board Members. Mineral Co. spent \$60,000 on this survey. Only addressed natural resources- not any Hospital Dist. , etc. which seems more appropriate for Seeley Lake. Discussion; many surveys being done. Some not concerned with what they think. We are separate and different in each of the Council areas.

Also briefly presented of interest to Seeley Lake - *Biochar: a co-gen biomass project. Studies being done now and information needs to shared with community. Used for fertilizer and it leaves no carbon footprint. Marx is looking into this as a presentation to local businesses.*

#### Upcoming meetings:

- Seeley Lake Community Council -1st Monday; Jan. 3, 6 pm at The Barn
- Seeley Lake Cemetery District 1st Thurs., Jan. 6 at 12:00 pm, DARLOA office
- Seeley Swan Hospital District 2nd Monday; Dec. 13, 5 pm at the Clinic Conf. Room;
- Seeley Lake Rural Fire District Third Tues., Dec. 21, 6:30 pm, at SL Fire Station
- Seeley Swan Search & Rescue- 3rd Tues. 6 pm at Station #2
- Seeley Lake Sewer District- 3rd Thurs., Dec.16, 5:15 pm at The Barn
- Seeley Lake Refuse District- 4th Monday, Dec. 27, 7 pm at the SL Transfer Station
- Seeley Lake Water District- 4th Th., Dec. 23, 5:30 pm, Water District Office
- Economic Development Committee- 2nd Thurs. Jan. 13, 7 pm at SL Elementary

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm

Kmg: 12/27/2010