

SEELEY LAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
May 3, 2010 – SEELEY LAKE HISTORICAL "BARN"

PRESENT: Jon Haufler, Diane Weatherman, George Frasca, Gary Pelletier, Carol Evans, Addrien Marx

ABSENT: Walt Hill

PUBLIC: Appx. 20 people and Chris Stout as audio recorder

ADMINISTRATIVE ASST: Kris Gullikson

Meeting commenced at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES: Evans moved for approval of minutes from the June meeting. Marx seconded. No changes. Comments from John Richards on process of how the public can make changes/corrections to minutes already approved. It was explained that the month following approval is the time for the public to submit any changes and that those comments will be added to that month's minutes. In that way, due process is upheld and recorded. All minutes are stored after approved at the Chamber of Commerce and posted online at the Seeley Lake Community Council's website. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Weatherman reported the balance is \$9857.75. At this time the statement has not been received. No checks have been written. The 2nd Quarter billing to Missoula Co. has been prepared for the normal \$250.00 and will be submitted following this meeting. Plans are to turn in the books for auditing upon completion of balancing as a new treasurer will be taking over from this point. One small discrepancy of less than \$10 on the Trails account, and she will get together with Carol Koepoke to rectify. Weatherman reported she has completed the application for the 2010 annual budget (\$1000.00) which if approved at this meeting will be turned in to the County.

MOTION: Weatherman motioned for approval of the Treasurer's Report and Evans seconded. All in favor.

MOTION: Marx motioned to approve the 2010 budget request from Missoula Co. Evans seconded. All in favor. correction to Board of Directors terms. Walt Hill and Addrein Marx terms run through May 2012.

COMMUNICATIONS: Letters from 1. From SLCC To Tim Hall, Missoula Conservation Dist., stating support of Patti Bartlett's Interpretive Trail project. 2. SL Ranger Dist. to SLCC thanking Gary Pelletier and Ron Cox for working with them on the Morrell Cr. trails project. 3. Other Trails communication discussed during Trails sect. of meeting.

COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT: Marx provided an update on newsletters, how to find them and use them as a tool. A number of us are assisting in the process of gathering past minutes and communications for organized storage and having it converted it to digital format. All SLCC records will be moved to the new County building when available (old Plum Creek building).

#### OLD BUSINESS:

AIR QUALITY: Evans reported meeting with Todd Johnson (Pyramid) and Frank Maradeo (Fire Dept.). They have agreed to participate in putting together a document to submit to the county by the end of May for funding.

Evans recapped the April 7 meeting. 9 residents and one guest speaker (Ben Schmidt) attended. Introduction by Evans emphasized a pro-active stance using collaborators to solve problems of air quality. That meant not focusing on air monitoring (as data is available), but focusing on burning more efficiently, switching fuel sources and/or burning methods. The Committee discussed solutions for: Education insulation, clean/dry wood, weatherproofing). Woodstoves (approximately 54 stoves may be impacting monitor readings). Other burning devices and finding/using other potential collaborators such as the SL Lions Club - will deliver wood, but cannot take on any more projects; SL Fire department- will contact; Pyramid Mtn. Lumber Co./Johnsons- information and outreach; Axmen- site visits and outreach/education. There are sources for low income energy assistance: Missoula Elec. Coop, Northwest Energy, manufacturers. Big news is the county has some discretionary money available. A community meeting/party, like the Valley Block Party, may be useful with coupons for free chimney inspections, chimney cleaning, electric heaters. We still are working on more funding (through county), but would like to move forward with education and community involvement. Next meeting not yet scheduled.

Comments from Ken Kronsperger on efforts being made. Caroline Jenkins updated those in attendance on past 3 months efforts of the Committee and offered to meet with anyone interested at Ben Schmidt's office in Msla. in order to get the full story and have all questions answered.

RECREATION/TRAILS COMMITTEE: Correspondence received: Letter to R. Hall by Pelletier in support of the riparian project on Morrell Cr. Frasca asked the SLCC for approval of \$400 from the Trails budget for the project. A scheduled meeting with Patty Bartlett is on Friday, May 7. More will be known as to what is needed following the meeting.

MOTION: Motion made by Frasca for \$400 from the Trails budget to be used on the Morrell Creek riparian project as determined by Patty Bartlett and the Trails Committee, meeting the desires of both. Pelletier seconded. All in favor. JUNE 5: National Trails Day. Frasca announced that following this meeting there will be a sign up for trails help for the upcoming season. Especially need equipment and labor. He thanked Ron Cox, Carol Koepoke and Cheryl Thompson for their past work. **MAY 17**: Work Service Day. Meet at Riverpoint Campground. Need: Saws, shovels and volunteers!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Weatherman reported on the April 14 meeting. 7 in attendance (down from past meetings). Requesting "Letters of Support" from community members. Gullikson suggested it be added to the website and an email sent out to Newsletter subscribers. The following report was read by Weatherman into the minutes:

**Economic Development Committee Report**: Held on April 14 meeting at the Barn

The meeting began at 2:30 and there were 7 in attendance.

Karen Pratt reported on very successful meetings in Missoula with BRED and MEDC concerning Grants available with Big Sky Trust and RBEG. Grants will be written by above the mentioned entities on behalf of the Seeley Lake Community for the amount of \$30,000. The purpose intended for the grant money is a feasibility study for this community. The Rural Business Enterprise Grant would designate the community as a "destination spot for outdoor enthusiasts and professional athletes". Letters of support from community businesses are needed to attach to these grants. The RBEG grant is due May 14 and Big Sky Trust grant is due June 31st. Businesses owners and community groups are asked to have letters ready by April 30. A feasibility study is a important first step as other grants from economic development will stem from this study.

Vicki Voegelin presented information about the study of small towns and their revitalization done by Larry Swanson. A conference call was made to Brent Moore who has participated in small town planning and design with his firm CTAR Architects. He cited work that they have done in Red Lodge and are currently engaged in at Phillipsburg. It was determined that more planning and focus is needed before any further conversations are appropriate.

A general discussion followed by those in attendance concerning problems, solutions, ideas and what comes first and how to proceed. The following is a sample of that discussion:

What do we have to offer a potential business or tourist coming to this destination?

We need a diversity of recreation types - non motorized as well as motorized. The concept of a walk able pathway around the lake - noted that this is in progress.

A livable wage year around is needed to keep families in Seeley Lake.

Advertising to include "Branding"

A labor base

Biomass - Computer non commuters - Glass recycling - live in it - don't just visit

Sell it - sell the lifestyle- Example: Unplug your child ! A wilderness experience!

The next meeting is scheduled for May 12 at 2:30 at the Barn.

Submitted by: Diane Weatherman and Addrien Marx

LAND USE PLAN: Haufler reported on behalf of the Council. The Plan is still under review by BCC. Last meeting was on April 21. considered a plan name change, industrial design wording, resource protection lands and clustering. Had 6 more items needed to be covered. Discussions are ongoing on those items. At that meeting, a new Proposal from Plum Creek Corp. for land use designation changes. County is seeking input back from organizations and agencies on that proposal. an inquiry was made to the Council if any input was desired to go back to BCC before the meeting on May 19th. None was requested. Next meeting: May 19 from 4-7 pm.

POLICY ON FINANCES AND CONTRACTS:

Haufler reported that this discussion was started last month. Reviewed past discussion for those attending. He again distributed copies of the proposed policy. Looking for a policy on this subject. Became clear last year no policy in place and got cross wise with Co and now it is needed. The Co. held a training meeting on their policies, etc. for all Community Councils which Pelletier attended. There are currently no guidelines for contracts under \$5000. Just over \$5000. It was stated that the SLCC will follow the guidelines currently in place for contracts over \$5000.

The following policy is proposed:

**POLICY FOR FINANCES AND CONTRACTS: POLICY FOR GOODS AND SERVICES**

PROJECTS EXCEEDING \$5000.: The Seeley Lake Community Council will follow the Missoula County guidelines for financial operations. All projects that involve contracts exceeding \$5000.00 will involve the County and its processing of such contacts.

For projects of less than \$5000, the following guidelines will apply:

For purchase of materials, equipment, supplies or other goods exceeding \$500.00, cost comparisons will be made among local vendors to assure the best price VALUE is obtained. If local vendors to do carry the product or have prices that are significantly higher than can be obtained from other sources, cost comparisons from internet or town-of-town sources will be considered.

For services for work exceeding \$1000.00, a request for bids will be prepared, will be posted in the community Newsletter, and distributed as appropriate by other means. Bids will be reviewed by the Council or its designated committee, and the service provider deemed to provide the best value for the community (may not be the lowest bid) will be selected.

For services for work exceeding \$1000.00 a professional service agreement (PSA) will be agreed to between the service provider and the Community Council or its designated committee prior to the initiation of any work. The PSA will MAY include reference (AS APPROPRIATE) to the specifics of the work to be accomplished, identify all costs associated with the services, timelines for work, invoicing and payments, method of approval of satisfactory completion of services prior to payment, all insurance or bonding requirements, indemnification of the community Council, severability of the agreement and OR other items as appropriate.

The above shall be the policy of the Seeley Lake Community Council.

Discussion followed. Changes are marked in red above.

MOTION to approve changes as noted and to accept this as the new SLCC policy by Weatherman and seconded by Pelletier. Further discussion. 5 ayes and 1 nay (Evans).

ALL COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING:

Pelletier will attend the meeting hosted by the Missoula County Commissioners for all Councils in Missoula Co. Date is Th. , May 6th from 6-8:30 pm at Lubrecht. The discussion will include the new MC Comm. Property System. Haufler had a copy of the agenda if anyone was interested to see it.

NEW BUSINESS:

SL Sewer Dist.: Randy Gordon gave an update on the Sewer Project. Twenty acres is being purchased for the treatment plant from the Forest Service. He reported the cost of the treatment plant at \$700,000 and the importance of finding funding to lower the cost to each of the intended users. An income survey will be sent out and he stressed the importance of getting data back from residents in order to accurately apply for further funding from the government. Montana Rural Water will be collecting the surveys from residents. The Sewer District invites participation from interested parties. Next meeting is May 20.

County PLACE Project: A request was received to be placed on the agenda for June SLCC meeting. The project is a compilation of GIS maps and all sorts of information in one place and they would like to talk to the Council concerning that.

Request for community meeting for sheriff's candidates. Council has received a request from Brad Giffin, candidate for Sheriff of Missoula Co. Chair stated that it may be a good idea for all candidates to present. Chair asked how the Council would like to proceed. Deputy Parcell is present tonight. Could have all 4 come, or two in opposition. Parcell is visiting all Community Councils in MC and will be happy to attend if time allows. Weatherman was contacted again today and requested council decide tonight if a date can be selected for such a forum. Publicity for the event is of concern. Discussion of combining purposes of the meeting with a candidate night and an organizational meeting.

Request for meeting by Missoula Organization of Realtors. Weatherman relayed an email she had received as a forward from Ruth Link, (Missoula Board of Realtors) written by Glen Oppel, (Government Affairs for Mt. Assn. of Realtors). Its purpose was to request to meet with SL Community on the Plum Creek Proposal before the BCC meeting on May 19. She reported that she had responded to the letter. She asked for Council to add this item to the agenda at the proposed upcoming meeting.

A date was selected (May 24 at 6 pm at the Barn) for a combined candidate night, Missoula Co. Realtor visit and then following that an organizational meeting for the new Seeley Lake Community Council. All are invited to attend.

Upcoming meetings:

May 24th- Candidate Night, Missoula Board of Realtors, Organizational Meeting for SLCC

SLCC: June 7th, 6 pm at the Barn

Economic Development Committee: May 12, 2:30 at the Barn

Air Quality: Not yet determined

Trails: Work Service Day- MAY 17th at 1 p.m. Meet at Riverpoint Campground. Need: Saws, shovels and volunteers

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 pm

kmg