

MT. BAKER FOOTHILLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

Meeting February 18, 2004

Mt. Baker School District Office

In attendance:

Carole MacDonald - Chair, The Inn at Mount Baker
Lou Piotrowski, Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber
Alan Seid, Cascadia Training & Mediation
Tricia King, Cascadia Training & Mediation
Phil Cloward, Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber
Anthony Kelley, Kelley Insurance Agency
Jeffrey Utter, Center for Renewable Energy Solutions
Mike Kaufman, Sustainable Connections
Deborah Taylor Smith, Mt. Baker Web Design
Gary Graham, Contemporary Design
Sam Crawford, Whatcom County Council
Rick Gantman, Mt. Baker School District
Sherri Daymon, Small Business Development Center
Ellen Barton, Whatcom Council of Governments
Dodd Snodgrass, Port of Bellingham
Amy Pederson, Whatcom County Planning Division

Jeff Margolis, Everybody's Store
Richard Nevels
Carole Sharpe
Lillian Lee, Nooksack Casino
Vicki Savage, North Fork Brewery
Norma Kirchan, Kendall Watch

OPENING

Call to order by Carole at 1:11. Introductions made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Margolis presented and discussed a scope of work and project schedule for a Washington Commerce Corridor Feasibility Study to be conducted by Wilbur Smith Associates Team for the Washington State Department of Transportation in 2004. The scope of work outlines the overall objectives and processes of the study. A potential commerce corridor right-of-way might encompass such uses as rail and/or vehicle freight, pipelines, power transmission, and other utilities. Jeff indicated that the first opportunity for public comment during the feasibility study will be in June 2004.

Several people expressed concerns regarding having an opportunity to provide local input during the study process. (This issue will be a discussion topic at the next meeting.)

Deborah stated that she would post the Commerce Corridor Feasibility Study scope of work and project schedule on the Mt. Baker Foothills Chamber of Commerce website.

The Kendall Community Center is now called the Northfork Community Resource Center.

COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS

Sustainability Subcommittee Presentation and Discussion - Alan

Alan stated that the goal of his presentation was to share and discuss a range of sustainability possibilities and posed the question: "How can we leave things in better shape for future generations?" He distributed and discussed several different definitions of "sustainability" and discussed different sustainability principles including the *Leaky Bucket Theory of Economic Development* and *The Natural Step*, which, as Carole mentioned, has been adopted by businesses in Whistler B.C.

Handouts distributed:

- “Sample Definitions for ‘Sustainability’” / “Three Circles of Sustainability”
- “The Law of Diminishing Returns”
- “What does a sustainable society look like?” / “A Summary of the Four Steps of Rocky Mountain Institute’s Economic Renewal Program (ER)”
- “The Natural Step,” by Joanne Tippett of Holocene Design

Alan also stated that he has several related resources (books/magazines) that people could review.

Vision and Mission Subcommittee Report - Lou and Phil

Due to time constraints, Lou and Phil gave a brief overview of the mission/vision process and presented the draft Vision, Mission, and Aims/Goals that were developed by the Subcommittee. Everyone present received a copy of the draft document and was asked to break into small groups to review and discuss it. Comments and suggestions were collected throughout the small group session and were posted on the wall. At the end of the meeting, Lou stated that any additional comments or feedback could be submitted to him via e-mail (loup@nas.com) by March 1, 2004.

Handout distributed:

- Mt. Baker Foothills Economic Development Association, Vision and Mission Subcommittee Report, February 18, 2004

The Vision, Mission and Aims/Goals will be revised for the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

1:00 pm, Mt Baker School District Office, Wednesday, March 17, 2004.

Agenda:

- Mission, Vision and Goals
- Washington Commerce Corridor Feasibility Study

Meeting adjourned at 3:04.