

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group
August 9th, 2000

Coast Hotel

Minutes

Facilitator: Cathy Bartfai

Recording Secretary: Pam Dowding

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Dinner - 6:00pm.

6:32pm – The facilitator, Cathy Bartfai opened the meeting and welcomed all members. Members of the public were welcomed, Charlie and Gerry Parsons and Randy Mitchell were introduced. It was noted that the first meeting of every month would be open to the public, and the public would have a chance to speak at 9:00pm.

Presentation of Agenda

The agenda was presented, and any additions requested.

Presentation by Mr. Larry Killam and Mr. Don McLeod

Mr. Killam complimented the Public Advisory Group on their work so far. He indicated that he had already met with Weyerhaeuser on certain things, and wanted to let the group know what ideas were being promoted. He felt that the Powell River area was overdue for a much more comprehensive plan for the future. The economic history of Powell River was outlined where in the 1960's the per capita income was the highest in Canada, and has steadily declined since then. The impending sale of the mill, (to Alberta Newsprint), and the downsizing of the work force were mentioned. Further predictions for downsizing were expressed. Mr. Killam did not feel that the past rumours of new industry coming to Powell River were true. He felt that the aluminum plant, Boeing and similar industries were not likely to come to Powell River. It was mentioned that Powell River had a huge potential for retirement for people moving from the cities. The wonderful lake system and natural assets that exist here were mentioned. The activities (cabins etc) around the edges of the lakes were noted. It was suggested that with a comprehensive land use plan, the ownership of some land around the lake system, which is held by Weyerhaeuser, could somehow be exchanged for other land of real value outside of the TFL39. The

lack of zoning, along Hwy 101 was mentioned, with the cement plant outside the golf course noted as an example. The area of Hammil Hills which consists of about 1500 acres, known locally as the airport reserve, bounded by Duck Lake Road, the golf course, hydro easement and hwy 101. The municipality of Powell River owns approximately 237 acres of this land. This land is ideal for industrial purposes, convenient location with gravel, and flat, broad terraces. If this land was zoned industrial, a private owner with an industrial developer could make this land a huge asset to this community. Powell River has no high-end residential developments. Huge potential exists in Hammil Hills, with 360degree views, compared to other subdivisions (Squamish area for example) which are very successful. Trade with Weyerhaeuser would achieve a lot of the things that this community would want, and attract more people to Powell River.

The question of whether an industrial park would form part of the views of the proposed high-end residential homes on Hammil Hills was raised.

Answer: The industrial views would be downhill to the Southeast, not facing the proposed residential area.

A grant from the provincial government and employment of a professional land use planner and public hearings were Mr. Killam's suggestions. A generalized blueprint for what the public wants, to fortify the plan and bring closer to reality would result. He sees

lots of potential for trading one parcel of crown land for another and the opportunity to negotiate with Weyerhaeuser to get what the public wants. The presentation ended on a positive note, noting that the vision for future development could be achieved with outside help.

Questions from the group were invited. To summarize, the exchange of lands for the canoe route (which is a fantastic asset and more valuable to the province than the Bowring lake chain) is a great idea. Mr. Killam noted that Weyerhaeuser's going from the statutory forest practices to logging around lakes with buffer zones was good, but that doesn't deal with development of the lake. He stated that if the community wants those lakes to be parks, it's not too much to ask. The group was encouraged to say what they want for the area, and to try to get it through trade. Don mentioned people in city in 40's would come to Powell River, to build bigger homes in areas like Hammil Hills would be very attractive to them. Large homes are being built on Hernando, Hardy and Savary Islands. Question was asked whether Powell River's economic growth will be from retirement, the observation was made that the area of Powell River hasn't made an industry of retirement and recreation. The potential for the area of Powell River is better than Victoria, Nanaimo, or Campbell River. Powell River has the advantage of a large hospital, which is a huge attraction for retirees. An industrial park would encourage industrial activities sought after in the community. There are some of the very best trades- people in the Powell River.

The question of whether the ideas had been pitched to the Regional District as well as Weyerhaeuser. So far only Weyerhaeuser has been approached.

To summarize, the subject of land swaps, and real estate values hadn't come up before and it was suggested that the group should look at these ideas closely. It was also suggested that the proposals be made available for the group to look at and submit as part of the public review process.

BREAK 7:12pm – 7:30pm

Review of Minutes from July 26th and 27th

The group discussed and approved the minutes of the previous two meetings. The minutes of all meetings are always open for discussion with the facilitator or secretary.

Notice of scheduled meetings

It was decided that the meeting on *Wednesday, August 23rd* would be a field trip to the forest in Paradise Valley. Members are asked to meet at Weyerhaeuser's office at 7:00pm. The group will then go to the forest, and meet back at Weyerhaeuser for coffee and informal discussion. This meeting will be advertised in the local newspaper, (Powell River Peak) and Channel 10, and members of the public will be invited. Public will be requested to phone ahead so that the numbers are manageable. The use of a megaphone was suggested for this field trip. A suggestion was made to have an article in the Peak to inform the public of the groups activities so far.

The following meeting on *Wednesday, August 30th* will be held at the Coast Hotel.

Questions regarding Access

Questions were asked regarding access roads to alpine and old growth areas, where areas of logging slash has been left, and whether there was a policy for Weyerhaeuser to leave a corridor for people to hike to these areas. The Ministry of Forests has an Access Management Plan, which is a two-year agreement that deals with roads. A copy of the Access Management Plan will be made available to the group.

Review of mapping meeting

The handout "*Summary of Gross productive Area by Old Growth Zone for Stillwater Block 1*" was provided by Weyerhaeuser. Rod Tysdal gave a brief explanation of the above document.

Unfortunately, the maps that were used in the 26th and 27th July meetings were not available at this meeting.

Since Doug McCormick was absent from this meeting, and the correct maps were not available, the group was frustrated, as it was difficult to review what Weyerhaeuser had done with the maps so far. Doug McCormick will be available at the next review of the original maps, which will take place at the Weyerhaeuser office.

Questions regarding percentages of old growth were raised.

Questions were asked regarding the percentage of retention.

Questions regarding veteran trees were raised, since many tourists are interested in seeing the big, old trees on trails. Who decides which trees are cut?

Several members voiced their concerns on the mapping process, and felt that it was not yet complete or satisfactory. The group and Weyerhaeuser agreed that more time needed to be spent looking at the maps. The group will meet again to review the finished maps and complete the mapping before the sixty-day public review process begins.

Another zoning map was posted and members of the group reviewed what had been posted to the maps. Members noticed several *discrepancies* and omissions on the maps.

The differences and additions noted were as follows: Maps should read:

Troubridge /Elephant Lakes - 100% left on the top of the ridge.

Troubridge most likely to have marbled murrelet – consider 100%

Rainy Day Lake 50% retention and Old Growth sections 10/30

Visible veterans concerns

Canoe Route 10/20 with 50% retention within 20 metres

East end of Lois and Khartoum cut off – should have some kind of protection

Protection for the edges of Powell Lake – keep water quality

Sunshine Coast Trail through Smith Ridge – old 2nd growth – 50 meter zone – 50% retention -use this area for scientific studies

Walt Hill – 50/50 with 100% protection of 50 metres

March Lake – proposed OGMA 100%

March Lake Railway Bed – Educational opportunities with 50% retention on 50 metres on each side

Lewis Lake 10/30 – 50% retention in the 30metres

Canyon north of Lewis Lake – contains large snags – 30/70 with 50% retention

Knuckleheads – 2 zones - Recreation with 2nd old growth – East is OGZ 64/36

Upper Lois – consultation to take place with Sonny Rioux (not present at this meeting)

Alpine Divide – 3 zones (6,7 &8) Zone 8 – Emma Lake classed as Recreation zone

Grizzly habitats - Daniels head & Well Creek – 100%

Trail to Emma Lake – 10/20

Dianne Lake – 25% minimum retention for habitat zone

Sunshine Coast Trail -remaining approximately 50km inside Block 1 not already covered 10/30 with 50% retention (some old growth in this area)

Heather Main – Question? Recreation zone or old growth for marbeled murrelet?

Powell Lake to Giovanni Lake Trail – Add Recreation area with 30/20 – 50% retention – visual impact to be kept and qualities maintained. No clear cuts to be visible

Extra Meeting

Maps will be made available for inspection at the extra meeting at the Weyerhaeuser office at 7:00pm, Wednesday August 16th.

Website and Library

Discussion on these issues will take place next time. It was noted that the website for the West Island's group has been abandoned. Any ideas would be welcome for the above. E-mail comments to Pam or Cathy.

Terms of Reference – Code of Conduct

A laminated copy of the Code of Conduct will be provided and posted at all meetings.

9:00pm - Opportunity for members of public to speak

Randy Mitchell was introduced. Mr. Mitchell is very familiar with the Powell River Canoe Route and surrounding areas. He voiced his concerns regarding the beaver, bug and fish population. Some areas are doing well, and others are not. The first 30 feet along the shoreline are the most important to fish and the ecosystem. He expressed his concerns regarding forestry practices around the lake, and hopes that the wildlife and fishing don't suffer because of aggressive logging practices. He stressed the importance of maintaining the wilderness areas.

Charlie Parsons was introduced and spoke on his concerns on the Haslam Lake watershed area where logging is taking place. He talked about the importance of planning for the future regarding the watershed. The fact that Cranberry Lake could use more water, and the fact that area (Cranberry Lake) could be improved for tourists. The lilies on the lake would be an added attraction. The suggestion that a bridge be included in the municipality's plan to replace the weir. Concerns regarding the old Cranberry dump were mentioned. The integrated waterworks management has been in the works for the last five years, and concerns on water testing were raised. Safe water was the main concern. Charlie suggested that more questions be asked regarding these areas of concern.

The facilitator reminded the group of the following meetings:

Wednesday, Aug 16th – Mapping at Weyerhaeuser office

Wednesday, Aug 23rd – Trip to the forest – meet at Weyerhaeuser office at 7:00pm

Wednesday, Aug 30th – Regular meeting at Coast Hotel 6:00pm

Some members of the group voiced concerns about the number of extra meetings scheduled during the summer.

Meeting adjourned: 9:10pm

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Attendance

Present

Name	Position	Member Seat
Bill Maitland	Primary	Contractor
Eagle Walz	Primary	Recreation
Ken Jackson	Primary	Recreation
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
<i>George Ferreira</i>	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
<i>Paul Holbrook</i>	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Mark Desnoyer	Alternate	Tourism
<i>David Gabelhouse</i>	Primary	Local Govt
Janet May	Primary	Environment
Michael Conway Brown	<u>Primary</u>	Environment
Linda Scheiber	Primary	Tourism
<i>Jim Stutt</i>	Alternate	Recreation

Absent

<i>Rita Rasmussen</i>	Alternate	Environment
<i>Ian Fleming</i>	Alternate	Local Business

<i>Bob Baxter</i>	Alternate	Recreation
Rory Maitland	Alternate	Contractor
<i>Terry Peters</i>	Alternate	Citizens
<i>Bill Duff</i>	Primary	Citizens
<i>Sonny Rioux</i>	Primary	IWA
Sally Keays	Alternate	Environment
<i>Kathleen O'Neil</i>	Primary	Education/Training
<i>Leni Goggins</i>	Primary	Youth
<i>Caila Holbrook</i>	Alternate	Youth

Resource /Other:

Rod Tysdal - Weyerhaeuser

Al Shaw – Min of Forests

Steve Gordon- Min of Environment, Lands and Parks

Guests - Larry Killam and Don McLeod

Public Observers - Randy Mitchell, Paul Howey, Robert Mackle,

Dolores delatorre

Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Parson

Facilitator - Cathy Bartfai - chamber@prcn.org

Secretary - Pam Dowding - dowding@aisl.bc.ca