

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

February 27, 2002

Minutes

Recording Secretary: Pam Dowding

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

6:00pm: Dinner

6:15pm: The Vice-chair opened the meeting and welcomed members and guests.

Introductions

Facilitator welcomed and introduced Jay Yule, guest from School Board District 47 and

Lori Kemp, owner of tourism business "Hiker's Haven".

New members for youth were also introduced.

CAG members introduced themselves to guests and new members.

Presentation of Agenda

Agenda was accepted and additions made.

Review of minutes from February 13th

The minutes from February 13th were reviewed - no amendments. The minutes will be posted to the website www.cagstw.org.

Question regarding the item re discussion about building trails on top of rebuilt roads "where feasible"

Member asked for an explanation of "feasibility".

It was explained that certain areas have slopes where it is not feasible or safe to build trails.

Member asked for location of debuilt roads that are said not to be feasible for trails

ACTION - Information on locations in question will be provided to CAG

Review of Action List

Action list from February 13th was reviewed and discussed.

ACTION – Sub-committee was struck for annual review of Terms of Reference before June 2002

ACTION – Sub committee for Access will go ahead with meetings regarding maps showing access.

Correspondence

Copies of a draft reply to recent correspondence to E.R. Baxter were distributed and

The group was asked to review and discuss letter and add any further comments.

ACTION – Check with members for further input and mail out reply as soon as possible

Copies of Community Consultation letter were distributed. It was suggested that the item be advertised in the local newspaper.

ACTION – Advertise Community Consultation in the Powell River Peak

Lori Kemp – Hiker's Haven

Atrevida Loop

Member of the public spoke on concerns about the effects of local logging methods to water supplies, biodiversity and trail systems. A map of the area showing Weyerhaeuser's proposed 37.5 hectares cut block that includes the Greenways Atrevida loop was provided for the group. Lori requested help from CAG to solve the problems that she thought would affect her business (Hiker's Haven). Major concerns were:

Economic impact – loss of business because of logging in the area

Serious concerns about water supply - groundwater and wells

Recreational qualities of trail will be spoiled

Road going through the area will invite others

Trees tagged down to the creek – water quality and environmental concerns

Visual quality of the area will be spoiled and tourists will not come

Other issues have not been addressed - No clear answers received from Ministry of Forests – petition signed by 2500

Response from Weyerhaeuser

It was noted that the planning and engineering departments were aware of the water concerns in the area. It was noted that Weyerhaeuser had no plans to ruin wells in the area and that plans have been made to protect water.

A request was made for a statement in writing from Weyerhaeuser stating their position.

It was also noted that the government had not set a date for the commencement of logging in the area because of a hold up. An order was issued that stated no logging was to go ahead in that block until First Nations treaty land issues had been settled. However, it was noted that the order has now expired. Weyerhaeuser is waiting for further direction from the government on this land.

ACTION – Weyerhaeuser will respond in writing to Lori's concerns regarding the creek, ground water, and protection of wells and biodiversity of the area.

CAG comments and questions

Member noted that a qualified hydrologist had conducted tests in another area and that there were many different points of view. Many residents were not satisfied with the results. Others were satisfied with the advice given by the hydrologist.

Member asked about alternate harvest methods for alder, and noted that it had a "shelf life" and would decompose if left too long.

It was noted that the issues of the native land agreements had delayed harvesting.

The Facilitator and members noted that the level of trust had grown over the two years that CAG had been working with Weyerhaeuser.

Suggestion was made that one or two members of CAG would work with Lori and try to help with the problems she was facing.

ACTION - Two members will continue to work with Lori Kemp.

ACTION - Map of the Atrevida proposed harvesting area will be provided by Weyerhaeuser for CAG

Lori thanked the group, noted that she was not *against* logging, and asked for a statement in writing from Weyerhaeuser.

ACTION- Statement from Weyerhaeuser will be sent to Lori Kemp

The facilitator noted that there was a vacant environmental seat on the Community Advisory Group, and invited Lori to consider the position. The invitation was declined due to other commitments and volunteer activities.

Education Information – Jay Yule

Jay Yule, School Superintendent for School District 47, discussed the possibility of a locally developed course in Forestry for Grades 11 and 12. It was noted that resource-based career prep programs were successful in other parts of the province. Powell River's Culinary Arts and Automotive training programs were given as examples of successful courses already in place in Powell River. A new program in Forestry that provided work experience and placement opportunities was suggested. It was noted that this would be an alternate choice to science. It was noted that if developed, the course could go ahead with only eight or nine students.

It was noted that community support was needed to get the programs developed. Parent groups, teachers, school coordinators, and community groups such as CAG could help.

Suggestions from CAG members included a survey at the schools to find out whether there was an interest in Forestry courses.

It was noted that in the past Weyerhaeuser had taken some students from Grade 10 for work experience, and had also sponsored some Native students for courses at Nicola Valley College. Member noted that there was a school in BC near Vanderhof that had its own logging block. It was agreed that "hands on"

experience was a good idea for students. Another member noted that a grade 5 resource - based course had been tried in some parts of Northern BC.

It was agreed that the program, if implemented, would be in line with CAG's social values and goals.

Members agreed to strike a sub-committee to work with the school district and Weyerhaeuser on the development of this course.

ACTION – Sub committee to meet with school district to discuss forestry education courses

BREAK 7:30 – 7:45pm

Correspondence

Facilitator asked for comments to reply to E.R. Baxter letter. It was noted that a note that CSA could be used as a "stepping stone" to FSC certification could be included.

New Youth Members

Two new members for the vacant youth seat were welcomed to the group. It was decided that Doug Fugge would be the primary member and Taylor Holbrook agreed to act as alternate.

FSC Social Chamber

Joanne Cameron-Nordell

Summary report of the FSC BC Regional Initiative Social Chamber Working Group workshop (Vancouver - February 3-4) was provided. It was reported that twenty-five very well informed and capable people from all over BC attended the two-day workshop. It was noted that many issues were raised and discussed during the workshop.

Community Issues – definition of "local"

Relationships between the Management Unit and local community

Greenwashing – discussion on whether all holdings have to be certified

Citizens advocacy groups – liked CAG and may write into FSC

"Whistle-blowing" protection – 1-800 number suggested for "TIPS"

Health and safety – herbicides and pesticide ingredients discussed

FSC auditors have developed own standards – tight controls

Appeal Process

Plantations 3rd world countries

Dispute resolution

Draft #3 due in June and will be available for public input

Chain of custody – how handled

Question about audits

It was noted that companies would be re-audited when regional standards are implemented

Question on whether other chambers exist i.e.: economical and environmental

ACTION - Facilitator will obtain more information on other FSC economic and environmental working group chambers

Question on how value-added companies separate FSC certified timber from other

Manufacturers have to be able to track lumber back to the forest

Question – since FSC in Mexico since 1993, why is process not yet defined?

Regional standards are set in 37 countries, only 20% in BC

FSC struggling with different local standards - same issues – volunteers working on long process

Member noted that after an FSC presentation in Nanaimo last year, many came away disillusioned.

Local issues not yet ratified-

Environmental lawyer Jessica Clogg's concerns have been noted regarding FSC.

Summary report of the recent FSC workshop was provided to CAG members for further study.

Community Forest - Update

Suggestion was made that someone from Shearwater services might be able to come to report to CAG on the study of a proposed community forest for the Powell River area. It was noted that a community forest would fit well with the social, economic, educational and tourism values that have been set. It was noted that the Ministry of Forests is still considering the idea of a community forest for Powell River.

ACTION – Member will arrange a further discussion with Shearwater on community forest proposal

Millennium Park – Update

Weyerhaeuser noted that a draft proposal would be presented soon. Agreements have to be made between the Provincial Government, Norske Canada and Weyerhaeuser.

It was noted that Harold Long, MLA was working with the proposal and an agreement could be reached shortly. It was decided to schedule some time on the agenda to continue discussions on the park at the next meeting, when PRPAWS member will be in attendance. Maps of the proposed Millennium Park were requested for members.

ACTION – Millennium Park maps to be provided for discussion.

Old Growth Supply – Paul Holbrook

Forest dependent business member discussed the graph showing the future availability of old growth for manufacturing. Member would like to see more old growth timber in the future, not less-as shown in the chart.

Weyerhaeuser suggested that CAG make this item an indicator for discussion. It was noted that the company is re-organizing at the strategic planning level.

Suggestion was made by facilitator that CAG members could write a letter to the new strategic planning committee to keep an open dialogue regarding the supply of old growth. Member suggested that the term old growth "by species" be used in the letter.

ACTION – Letter will be written to the strategic planning committee of Weyerhaeuser regarding supply of old growth.

24-hour Access – Proposed new one-way loop hook-up road:

Walt Cowlard

Maps were provided showing the proposed new hookup road from the Dixon Road/Stillwater mainline junction to Goat Lake Mainline. It was explained that the road would be constructed to enable one-way traffic to and from this junction to the Tin hat junction, at 8 1/2 mile on the Goat Lake Main. It was noted that an amendment to the Forest Development Plan would be needed to build the road. It was noted that the road would not be built until the FSP is approved. Discussions with the Ministry of Forests have already taken place. It was noted that the Ministry *might* approve the road without the sixty-day public review period if a letter of support from CAG was presented. Stage one of the road would be only one kilometer long. *Questions and comments* from CAG:

Not done this way before – what impact would there be?

If CAG says "YES" what is the environmental impact? - Ministry of Land Air and Water would comment on proposal

Are the trees valuable? More valuable than the road?

How steep? – Only 7% gentle grade

Water shed area? – proposed road would have no impact -

Major or minor amendment needed? - Major, no road there before

Loss of productive land base? – Does harvesting trees for the road count towards the AAC – Yes

Boat launch area – Will be accommodated in plan

Signage? Will point to the entry for the TFL

How is silviculture prescription handled when harvesting cut – block for access road? – same as before will be shown as road on plans

Have roads just for public access been built before? – Yes Canoe Main was built for access to the campsite, as well as for logging

Visual quality – how impacted? – When harvesting begins, partial views of the lake and around the old homestead in the area could be created. Opportunity for CAG and public to have input

Some members expressed concerns regarding the principle to change or vary the usual practice of holding a sixty-day public review period. It was noted that this was a once only time and it was not intended to set precedence in future.

After discussions, CAG members voted with a show of hands to support the proposal for the building of the short (one kilometer) stage of the one way public access road to begin. It was noted that the final decision would be the decision of the District Manager. Member noted that safe public access to the forests has been an important item of discussion in the community.

ACTION – Members will draft letter to Ministry of Forests District Manager Greg Hemphill in support of proposed public access road

Next meeting – March 13th –Agenda - Access

Access sub-committee to meet before March 13, 2002.

Meeting Adjourned 9:07PM

<p style="text-align: center;">Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group</p> <p style="text-align: center;">January February 27th 2002</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Attendance</p>		
Name	Position	Member Seat
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
George Ferreira	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
David Gabelhouse	Primary	Local Govt
Kathleen O’Neil	Primary	Education/Planning
Bill Duff	Primary	Citizens
Karen Duff	Alternate	Citizens
Michael Conway-	Primary	Environment

Brown		
Jane Cameron	Alternate	Recreation
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
Doug Fugge	Primary	Youth
Taylor Holbrook	Alternate	Youth
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Absent		
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
Mike Robinson	Alternate	Education/Planning
Andrew Pinch	Alternate	Tourism
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
Ian Fleming	Alternate	Local Business
<i>12 seats in attendance</i>		
Resource - Guests		
Rod Tysdal	Weyerhaeuser	Stillwater
Walt Cowlard	Weyerhaeuser	Stillwater
Jay Yule	School Board	District 47
Patrick Brabazon	Guest	
Lori Kemp	Tourism operator	

Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	