

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

September 25th, 2002

Minutes

Recording Secretary: Pam Dowding

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

6:00PM

Dinner

6:30PM

Facilitator welcomed members and guests.

Introductions

Facilitator introduced guest Mike Hooper from Weyerhaeuser, Nanaimo and new alternate member for education – Terri Thompson.

Acceptance of Agenda and additions

Agenda was accepted and additions made.

Review of Minutes from September 11th

Minutes from September 11th were reviewed and accepted.

Question regarding FIA funding administration process

Discussion and questions regarding item that was discussed at the September 11th

meeting. Regarding the new FIA funding, member asked for

clarification of Price Waterhouse Cooper's role in the decision making for projects.

It was noted that licensees made the decisions on projects. Price Waterhouse Cooper administers the flow of funds and checks the accountability of the projects. A multi-level team allocates the funds. Stillwater gets funding based on the cut level and stumpage paid. When project is planned, it is sent to Nanaimo and then to Campbell River for approval.

ACTION- Request will be made to Dianne in Nanaimo to put together a package of information for CAG to show how FIA projects are planned and funds administered.

Member asked whether FIA had a mandate to provide retraining and education for displaced forestry workers, as FRBC had done in the past. Some FIA funding could be used for educational projects and retraining, but funds are much less than they were under FRBC. FIA program is much more flexible and could be used for a broader range

of projects.

Correspondence

Copy of letter to Lori Kemp that was requested was provided for CAG files. Member noted that some details that were verbally discussed were not mentioned in the correspondence.

Suggestion that Lori could be encouraged to establish a formal paper trail with Weyerhaeuser and that communication should be cc'd to CAG. It was noted that the area in question was part of the First Nations treaty negotiations, and no harvesting is planned by North West Hardwoods in the near future until land claims are settled.

Recreation Stewardship Panel – Draft Recommendations

Package of information for members was provided. Member noted that the government had changed its way of thinking to previous reports and pointed to **Recommendation #21 – Outdoor Recreation on Crown Land**

The Provincial Government continue the equivalent of Ministry of Forests responsibilities for recreation, including:

Maintenance of recreation sites program;

Maintenance of recreation trail program, including "marine trails", a rails to trails program, and the terrestrial system of trails; and,

Maintenance of forest road access to key recreation areas

IWA report on the Results-based code discussion paper

Copies of IWA report were provided for members.

Review of Action List

Action list was reviewed and it was noted that most items have been completed or are in the process of being completed.

Education Report - Kathleen O'Neil

Report from the education sector stated that new goals for the local community schools include a forestry education program. School District #47 has included forest education goals in their planning for next year. The school board will work with local forest companies to implement new program. Member noted that CAG also had a responsibility to educate the public on forestry. Member will report further developments.

Water Monitoring

Member asked about item on Action list regarding the monitoring of water quality.

It was noted that some testing is taking place around Lewis Lake area and hydrologists have been consulted. Some research has already taken place due to a jointly funded project by the Department of Fisheries, UBC and Weyerhaeuser. Research projects concerning water quality have also come up with data on algae and bugs.

It was noted that a team of specialists from industry and government agencies is working in Vancouver to find a way to monitor water in fish bearing streams and other habitats. More information will be posted on website, as it becomes available.

ACTION – Provide website address for water quality monitoring information

New Members

Chair noted that there are a number of vacant seats at the table. Advertisements in the local paper and other efforts by members have found some candidates for the positions.

Two alternates per seat

Members discussed the possibility of having two alternates in some seats to ensure consistent representation at meetings. It was noted that there would still only be one vote per seat. Member moved to allow two alternates per seat.

Members voted by a show of hands to accept the "two alternates" rule.

Background information on candidates for the vacant positions was provided:

Dana McKamey, BSF. RPF – alternate for contractors

Experienced in joint ventures with First Nations

Experienced with Land Use Board

Jason Lennox – alternate for Tourism seat

New eco-tourism business operator – rental of ATV's and tour operator.

George Ferreira – alternate for Local Business

Local businessman – previous member – motorized recreation enthusiast

Terri Thompson – alternate Education seat

Teacher, avid hiker, Degree in Canadian History, focus on First Nations. Treaty research for First Nations.

Youth Seat – Primary and alternate - Vacant – members will continue to find candidate ideally a Grade 11 student.

Citizen's Seat - alternate

Some interested candidates but none have yet come forward.

ACTION – Members will continue to find candidate for Youth and Citizen's alternate seat.

ACTION – Letters to be sent to other interested parties, and thanks to past members.

Members voted by a show of hands for the available candidates. Facilitator noted that it was important for alternates to keep up to date with what's happening at the CAG meetings, and primary members should bring alternates up to date with new information.

Member noted that it was good to have additional input, questions and new ideas from new members.

Orientation for new members

Facilitator noted that there would be an orientation session for new members at 5:30PM before the next meeting on October 9th, 2002.

7:40PM – 7:55PM Break

Phillips Arm Presentation

Members were shown a presentation of the recent trip to Phillips Arm.

Members discussed bear habitat, slides, cutblocks and Variable retention. Long line type of

harvesting was discussed. It was noted that Steve Gordon from the Ministry of Sustainable

Resource management would be available with information on Bear habitat at the next

Meeting.

FSC Certification question

Member asked for information on FSC certification that had been attained by a company in the Phillips Arm area before BC standards existed. Member noted that Forest

Managers had been audited with a set of approved standards.

ACTION – Facilitator will get more information from Dennis Fitzgerald and will report

back to the group.

Meeting Dates

Future meeting dates for 2002 were announced –

October 9 – Moose Hall

October 23 – Coast Hotel

November 13 – Coast Hotel

November 27 – Coast Hotel

December 11 – Coast Hotel

Possible all day workshop for indicators

November 23

Members suggested the possibility of a Christmas party after the December 11th meeting.

Revision to the final submission for FSP regarding retention of VR and WTP's

Member voiced concerns about the change of wording in the final submission for FSP regarding the word permanent and reviewed previous conversations regarding the permanent retention of old growth patches. Weyerhaeuser noted that the Forest Service asked for the word permanent to be taken out. On consultation with CAG, members were adamant that the word permanent is left in the document. It was noted that the Final version of the FSP (page 15) includes the statement:

The intention is that retention patches are permanent unless science determines that the attributes captured by the patch are inadequate to sustain biological richness, in which case the patch may be substituted.

Members were satisfied with the final statement and pleased that they had been able to get the wording changed to include the word permanent.

Code of Conduct

Facilitator reminded members of the Code of Conduct that is included in the Terms of Reference.

Safety Announcement

Facilitator pointed out the fire exits and first aid and safety features of the meeting place.

Variable Retention Audit – October 29-30

CAG participants

It was announced that two independent auditors will audit the variable retention in TFL39 Block 1 on October 29 and 30th, 2002. Interested CAG members were asked to let facilitator know if interested in observing the audit. Areas to be covered are:

Powell Daniels

Goat Island

Windsor Lake

Lois Lake

Old Growth

Member expressed concerns regarding the availability of old growth timber and the fact that none will be available in forty years. It was noted that a letter had been forwarded to the Strategic Planning Committee and no response has yet been received.

Question: Member asked why in forty years there will be no more old growth.

Answer: Business cases do not support 250-300 year old trees. Most economic way for large corporations is to harvest trees at around 40 – 60 years. Separate areas of old growth are already protected.

Member noted that old growth zones are not a huge area and reserves are 66%, and only 20% of the remaining 34% is harvestable. It was noted that the government sets targets for the AAC and part of the Land Use Plan states "retain or re-establish" old growth management areas. OGMA's are not available for harvesting.

It was noted that 2nd growth product is better for mills and better for the business.

Member wished that there was more specialty tight grain old growth wood of 250-500 years old available for small value-added business. How could the availability of the old growth that's there be extended?

It was agreed that there was room for discussion on the subject and that the next strategic planning meeting would deal with the letter from CAG.
Member asked whether he would be allowed to attend meeting at Weyerhaeuser.

Member suggested that if old growth was not readily available and dwindling supplies predicted for the future, then businesses should try to diversify and use other, available fibre.

Member also referred back to the forest dependent business meetings that had been held with Weyerhaeuser. It was agreed that small businesses have to let the dry land sort know what type of timber they are looking for and give the company sufficient lead time, because of the composition of current cut blocks.

Member stated that community stability does not depend on the value added sector, and rarer products cost more, and suggested that value added companies could diversify and use alternate (not old growth) products if necessary

Member noted that there is plenty of wood in the TFL, and Weyerhaeuser manages Crown land for the markets – modern mills need 18-24 inch trees. Old growth is rare yet still available, but always at a much higher price.

Indicators and Objectives

Members were provided with Summary report on Objectives and Indicators and were requested to review before next meeting.

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9:03PM – Meeting adjourned

Stillwater Timberlands Advisory Group		
Sept 25th 2002		
Attendance		

Name	Position	Member Seat
Present		
Eagle Walz Chair	Primary	Recreation
Jane Cameron	Alternate	Recreation
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Michael Conway-Brown	Primary	Environment
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
Kathleen O'Neil	Primary	Education/Planning
Terri Thompson	Alternate	Education/Planning
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Absent		
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
Dana McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
David Gabelhouse	Primary	Local Govt.
Peter Ranger	Primary	Forest Dependent
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism

Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
Sonny Rioux	Primary	IWA
<i>7 seats in attendance</i>		
Resource - other		
Doug McCormick	Weyerhaeuser	Stillwater Timberlands
Mike Hooper	Weyerhaeuser	Nanaimo
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	