

Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

December 8th 2004

Minutes

Brooks Secondary School

Attendance: refer to attached sheet

Quorum noted

6:03pm: Meeting called to order

Welcome

Chair opened the meeting and welcomed members.

Safety Review

Facilitator noted safety rules – fire exits and first aid attendants in case of emergency.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and accepted with additions.

Review of Minutes of November 24th

Minutes from November 24th were reviewed, discussed and accepted with amendments.

Fire Alarm

Meeting was delayed due to fire alarm. Building was evacuated.

Meeting resumed

Correspondence

Letter of response from West Island Woodlands Advisory Group

Letter to Michel de Bellefeuille re Spring conference

Letter of resignation from Terry Peters, alternate citizens member

Letter of support for Community Forest

Review of Action List

Action List was reviewed and discussed. Actions regarding indicators were separated and it was noted that work will begin in January.

Company Updates – Paul Kutz

BC Coastal FSP Meeting.

- Rough draft has been put together, next meeting will be held

December 15-16, 2004. Document will be brought to CAG in New Year

prior to public review.

FSP Audit

- Blocks were audited on December 1st and 2nd.

- CAG members participated.

Good audit

Valuable discussion for CAG members

L-011 – maybe a minor non-conformance re S-4 creek

TM-182 – S-6 creek into S-3 creek cleaned there was a conversation about one small section where the MOF felt it could be cleaned a bit more.

Question – What are the consequences of a minor non-conformance?

Answer – Incident will go into Ministry of Forest's inspection report.

Question – What's to stop the same thing happening again?

Answer – Company wants to adhere to plans and not get "black marks" In this case the company did not fully implement the plan according to the FSP. Company wants to have good records and environmental reports. Black marks mean the Ministry could initiate an investigation leading to charges – they are a "wake-up call". Ministry would look up back records for compliance and enforcement and could act on them.

Member asked about a disagreement between the company and Ministry about six months ago where there was a difference of opinion

Paul noted that there was a different interpretation of the laws – areas are getting more "grey". Paul noted that fines (when enforced) could be large – ranging from \$500,000 to \$1million.

Other members commented on the interesting points of the audit, focusing on streams, ditching, sedimentation and new road construction.

Question – Who identifies streams – do company and Ministries always agree?

Answer – Ministry of Fisheries identifies the streams and classifies creeks – they are the specialists - company accepts the classifications.

Employee Updates

- Four new salary positions have been filled
- Three from Stillwater ex-hourly employees and one new person from the Queen Charlotte's

Harvesting scaling down for Christmas holidays

- Harvesting is winding down for the holidays
- Volumes are about 700,000 cubic metres for AAC for 2004. Scaling is still being completed for Phillips Arm

Trans Gesco Skidder

- Paul traveled to the Interior to look at possibility of new skidder machine for Stillwater
- Machine is capable of hauling 30 cubic metres at a time

Machine would be used in ST-260

Machine is not suited to all ground, but would work well in ST-260

Machine has 8 wheels 4 x 42" at front and 4 x 48" at back

Forest Service will allow skidders back in for harvesting

Trans Gesco skidder is good machine for long distances

Major Amendment for Public Review

- Notice will appear in newspaper – Review will be held on Thursday,

December 16th 2004

- Five-year plan until 2005 - FSP will replace Forest Development Plan

- 60-day public review period

- Comments are tabulated and tenure holder replies before approval of plan

- Some new areas will be shown – additional wood

- Members were encouraged to go out on December 16th to review the

Plan

- Engineer Trevor Egely will be available to answer questions

ACTION - e-mail members with reminder for Dec 16th public review

Member noted that there are concerns about siltation going into the river in two areas – south of town at Jefferd Creek, and north in the Theodosia watershed.

Question - Member asked whether the plan included area of Jefferd Creek, and noted that the Regional District has reviewed maps. Member asked about proposed cut block at Jefferd Creek, and asked about the approved cut-blocks in the same area.

Answer – No, they are not in this plan, but if approved blocks are shown, they would have been approved previously

Question – Does VR (variable retention) apply, or are they operating under different rules?

Answer – For alder – the operating rules are different. When returning to deciduous forest, focus is on regeneration. When the plans are for the TFL, they will use VR.

Question – If deciduous forest is harvested, is it always returned to deciduous when replanting?

Answer – North West Hardwoods has an agreement with the Ministry – Neil Hughes decides whether alder or conifer is planted.

Local Sales for 2004

- Handout was provided and discussed

- Member noted that in the past – no names were attached to the report
because of privacy concerns

ACTION – Amended Local sales report will be sent by e-mail

Operational Information Map

Maps were shown and handouts provided for operational information map.

Current Activities

Harvesting – LL-052A, WL-912, PD-206 (snowed out), LC-006 and ST-048

Road Construction – GI-019. HB-172

Engineering – OL-558, ST-260, ST-259, ST-257, GI-054, WL-027 and TH-045

New Blocks – BT-638. OL-747, OL747P and PD453

New Roads – LC006

Cutting Permit Approved – ST-008, TM-218, TM-224, UL-801, WL-005 and WL-909

Salvage Areas – Goat Island, K-Branch, Ireland Lake and Lang Creek

Map Updates – Logging complete – GI-100 and GI-100A. PD-206 (snowed out)

WL-01- (snowed out), LL-009B and LL-011

Road Construction Complete – OL-747, HB-171, HB-165, K-Branch – (snowed out), TM-191 and TM-191P

Engineered Blocks – ST-151, GI-098

Engineered Roads – ST-262, PD-453 (partial)

Member asked whether there was any logging planned for Jefferd Creek watershed –

Paul noted that it would be Northwest Hardwoods – see amendments to Forest Development Plan public review – one block may be in the watershed.

FSP Audit – LL-054 and LL-011

Member provided a detailed report on the FSP audit on December 2nd. Blocks LL-054 and LL011 were audited. Copies of report will be provided for members.

Member noted that the outing was a good learning experience, and was impressed with the details that the Ministry of Forests and Ministry for the Environment took time to review and discuss.

Question – What was the discussion on the relocation of the Sunshine Coast Trail? Was it raised that the bottom is mud-bogged in that location. (LL-054 block)?

Answer – Water and mud are a problem – bomb squad will be looking at site.

Question – Is the Stillwater FSP the first in BC to have public participation on audits?

Answer – Forestry say it is not done in other areas- they look at compliance in the forest.

Question – Could we find out if we are the only area that allows members of the public to participate in audits? Will they be required with the new FSP's?

ACTION – Paul will find out whether members of the public are allowed on audits anywhere else, and whether they will be required with new FSP's.

Paul noted that the Ministry of Forests has recently hired two local forestry contractors.

Break –7:53pm – 8:06pm

Chair -Vice-Chairs discussion

Discussion continued from last meeting regarding the functions of the chair, vice chair and facilitator. Members noted that CAG is fortunate to have the set up that they have, and compared other groups on the Island. It was noted that things have worked well with the facilitator bringing things together in a timely fashion.

Member noted that an end of summer planning meeting between facilitator, chairs and Weyerhaeuser was very useful. Members noted that the group works well together and that all members trust each other.

Sub-Committees

Members agreed that a more clearly defined description of sub-committees could be written into the Terms of Reference at the next. Members noted that sub-committees would continue to work together as before, trust each other and work for the success of the group. Member noted that there should be no objection to members getting together between meetings. It was noted that all important decisions are made at the table, by consensus, and that method has always worked well in the past.

Meeting Procedures

Member noted that meeting procedures according to the Terms of Reference should be followed. It was noted that meetings seem to have evolved from the first year where facilitator ran the meeting – to an unsatisfactory situation where the rules changed. Discussions continued and members agreed that the Terms of Reference should be followed as closely as possible-

Chair to open and close the meetings, present the agenda and review the minutes and correspondence

Facilitator to ensure that the meetings follow the Terms of Reference, to establish agenda and meeting strategy etc. It was noted that the facilitator is a neutral platform and should be used more to run the meetings. Chair can then be free to participate.

Meeting of Chairs – any interested persons can join – if future, an e-mail will be sent out to all members with notice of time and place of meetings

Sub- committees can be formed "ad-hoc", suggestions can be brought back to the group and members at large approve decisions.

Chair noted that one of the responsibilities of the chair is to ensure that everyone is heard. Other committees were compared to CAG's. It was noted that CAG's situation is somewhat unique. It was noted that consulting informally was not recommended, and it was better to carry on as before. Members know that they can bring forward any issues to the table and participate in discussions.

Decisions made by small groups are not advisable.

Member noted this item could be given some thought over the holidays.

Member asked about agendas – Items are placed on agenda and distributed to Chairs, Weyerhaeuser and members. Members can e-mail requests if they need time on the agenda.

Member noted that a lot of time and effort has been put into the terms of reference, and asked whether they are strictly adhered to – Member noted that the Terms have been followed fairly strictly in the past.

Member noted that maybe the meeting procedures could be more clearly defined when they are reviewed.

Facilitator noted that the CSA standards require that the Terms of Reference will be more closely scrutinized; there may be room for improvement.

Member noted that the meetings are run in an orderly fashion – lots of work has been done over the past five years. Group has been fairly casual, but has worked very well together. CAG is very successful, and Terms of Reference should reflect who we are.

Code of Conduct – Member noted that the *code of conduct* should have been followed when some heated discussions took place recently.

Member suggested that the Terms of Reference can seem unclear to new members, and suggested that more details could be added.

Facilitator noted that the next CSA audit would take place in May 2005; old standards are still in place. New 2002 standards do not have to be in place until 2006.

Member suggested that the Terms of Reference committee could define some points more clearly. Committee can bring recommendations, and members can review.

Facilitator suggested that members could give some thought to the discussion over the holidays, and e-mail suggestions to the committee.

ACTION – Member to e-mail suggestions for improvements to Terms of reference before sub-committee meets again

Terms of Reference sub-committee meeting

Sub-committee members will meet before the next CAG meeting. Members will be e-mailed with date and time. Maybe an evening or afternoon meeting depending on members' availability.

FSP Audit – December 1st (TM-182 and HB-171)

December 2nd (LL-011 and LL054)

Member who attended audits provided a report and photographs. Copies of report were provided for members. Member noted that the experience was interesting and very educational. Another member noted that the dialogue between Weyerhaeuser, CAG member, Ministry of Forests staff was excellent.

FSP Review – Dates

It was noted that the dates for annual review of the FSP will be held -

Friday, January 7th and Saturday, January 8th – times will be partial days.

Notice will appear in the Powell River Peak.

Member requested the extra Saturday date to provide more review time for public, as in the past.

Surveys

Copies of a survey from the Sustainable Forest Management Network "*National Survey of Citizens Committees*" were provided. Survey is also available on-line and details have been forwarded to members

Survey "*Interview Questions regarding Pilot Projects –CAG*" regarding the Pilot project with questions from UBC student is available on line for members. Details have been forwarded to members electronically.

Members were encouraged to answer surveys either on line or by mail.

Member suggested an invitation could be sent to student to come to Powell River to observe a CAG meeting in the New Year.

ACTION – Invitation to CAG meeting to be sent to Susan at UBC.

Indicator Review

Facilitator noted that she will work on the reformatting of the indicators over the Christmas holidays.

Indicators Binders will be provided for each member

One indicator per page will make for easier reading

Three years of data will be included for each indicator

There will be 50-60 pages to review for easy reference

Value Added age requirements

Member asked whether the future changes in the FSP will include value added values – will they be now be written into the CSA? Member noted that old growth is needed and felt strongly that it should be kept in he FSP.

Community Values – letter to government

It was noted that the first draft of the FSP is coming to CAG in January. Members discussed the eleven elements (water, soil etc), and asked again about community values. Can Weyerhaeuser choose more than is written into the plan? Member suggested contacting the government with a letter reflecting CAG's strong views on community values- they should be written into the FSP.

Members agreed that a letter should be sent

ACTION – Letter to government regarding the FSP and the inclusion of the 12th element (Community values). Members were encouraged to provide input into the letter as soon as possible.

Member requested a list of the eleven elements from website

ACTION - List of eleven elements to be sent electronically to members.

Field Trips

Paul Kutz noted that the educational experience noted by members that have participated in FSP audits is invaluable. It was suggested that in future, shorter, quick field trips would be very useful to the group. Paul offered to take members out more often to look at sites of interest. Paul will compile a list of interesting and useful sites of interest to CAG.

ACTION – List of interesting sites for field trips to be compiled for members.

Homework

Members were asked to bring reports on their constituents, what they need, and how they report to them.

Field Trip

Next scheduled field trip will take place in January. Brian d"Anjou will come to Powell River for trip.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held on January 12th, 2005 at Brooks Secondary School.

Chair wished all members a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year

Meeting adjourned – 9:14pm

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Stillwater Timberlands Community Advisory Group

December 8th 2004

Attendance		
Name	Position	Member Seat
PRESENT		
Eagle Walz - Chair	Primary	Recreation
Ken Jackson - Vice-Chair	Primary	Recreation
Joanne Cameron-Nordell	Primary	Local Business
Paul Goodwin	Primary	Forest Dependent
Jane Cameron - 2nd Vice-Chair	Primary	Member at large
Patrick Brabazon	Primary	Local Govt. (Regional)
Debby Waslewski	Primary	Citizens
Dan Waslewski	Alternate	Citizens
Jeff Mah	Primary	Local Govt. (Municipal)
Michael Conway Brown	Primary	Environment/Access
Dave Rees	Alternate	Tourism
Erika Hein	Primary	Youth
Jack McClinchey	Primary	Motorized Recreation
Andy Davis	Alternate	Citizens
Paul Holbrook	Alternate	Forest Dependent
12 Seats represented		
ABSENT		
Tony Smith	Primary	Education
Rory Maitland	Primary	Contractors
Fran Ferguson	Alternate	Recreation

Nancy Hollmann	Primary	Environment
Bill Maitland	Alternate	Contractors
David Gabelhouse	Alternate	Local Govt. (Municipal)
Les Falk	Alternate	Local Govt. (Regional)
Lorne Marr	Alternate	Recreation
George Ferreira	Alternate	Local Business
Terry Peters	Alternate	Citizens
John Passek	Alternate	Motorized Recreation
Andrew Pinch	Primary	Tourism
Dianne Mason	Alternate	Education
Kevin McKamey	Alternate	Contractors
Carol Sansburn	Alternate	Education
Resource – others		
Paul Kutz	Stillwater	Weyerhaeuser
Cathy Bartfai	Facilitator	
Pam Dowding	Secretary	