

Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes March 17, 2016
Black Bear Resort, Port McNeill, BC
7:00 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Attendance: Kelly McMahon, Jack Miller, Labour, Jon Lok, Small Contractors, Trevor Egley, WFP, Graham MacDonald, Town of Port McNeill

Regrets: Pat English, Local Government, Bill Nelson, Small Contractors, Steve Lacasse, Environment, Jeff Jones, Mount Cain Alpine Park Society, Stu Ellis, General Public

Observers: Chris Bowden-Green, Woss resident

Advisor: Paul Barolet, MOFLNRO

Presenter: Kelly McMahon, Area Planner, WFP

Facilitator: Annemarie Koch

Notes: Kelly McMahon and Annemarie Koch

1. Introduction and Safety Procedures:

Annemarie reviewed the safety procedures to follow in the event of a fire or medical emergency.

Annemarie reviewed the objectives of the meeting, namely:

- To review the February 11th meeting minutes and selected action items;
- To hear a presentation from Kelly McMahon on the 2015 annual report;
- To discuss possible revisions to a Criterion 5 Indicator;
- To confirm the 2016 meeting schedule for posting on the website;
- To discuss membership;
- To confirm the date and content of the next meeting.

Annemarie noted the strong presence of public advisory group members at the February 24th northern goshawk and marbled murrelet Species At Risk strategy workshop and thanked all those who participated and provided their input to the Provincial Government representatives.

2. Review of Minutes and Action Items:

Annemarie reviewed the minutes and action items from the February 11th meeting. She reminded NWAC members that she would be assuming they had read the minutes prior to the meeting. There were no additions or changes to the minutes. She added that she would not be addressing action items that were ongoing but only items that were to be addressed in the shorter term. Given this, Annemarie noted that there were nine action items to address from the November 26th meeting.

Annemarie reviewed the action items (including items that had been completed or revised) for which action was required in the short term, or for which reports were available.

Action Item 1: to follow up and see the feasibility of combining a number of targets for Indicator 5.1.1 that better reflect the economic and community benefits generated specifically in this DFA.

It was agreed that Kelly should work with Jack and Bill to develop an additional target for Indicator 5.1.1 that shows Englewood's productivity in relation to other divisions in WFP

Responsibility: Kelly/Jack/Bill

Due Date: After divisional amalgamations are complete

Annemarie noted that some preliminary work had been done to amalgamate some of the indicators and that this work was ongoing. She noted that one of the indicator revisions was being presented to members of NWAC later in the agenda, and that review of further proposed revisions to Criterion 5 indicators would take place as the year progressed.

Action Item 2: Determine the feasibility of a cross division PAG meeting- in Port McNeill

Responsibility- Kelly and Trevor

Due Date- ongoing in 2015

Annemarie confirmed that a cross-PAG meeting would be held in Port McNeill on September 22-23, 2016 and that it had been proposed that the draft itinerary be reviewed at a proposed additional NWAC meeting on April 14th, along with further discussion of Criterion 5 indicators and the 2015 annual report. Kelly noted she had approached some senior VP's with WFP about attending the all-PAG workshop and that she was hopeful they would attend.

Action Item 3: Look at ways and means of generating greater awareness of the economic and environmental benefits of preventing loss of petroleum products such as oil.

Responsibility: Trevor/Kelly/Jack

Due Date: Ongoing.

Action Item 4: Refine Indicator 5.2.2 to include a greater scope of training opportunities available in the DFA, including training provided through contractors. Inclusion of the training completed by Bill 13 contractors. Information can come from the safety council audit at Randy's suggestion.

Responsibility: Kelly McMahan

Due Date: 2015 annual report

Annemarie noted that Kelly would be addressing this action item during her presentation on the 2015 annual report and with proposed revisions to the Criterion 5 indicators.

Action Item 5: support Youth Forestry Initiative

Responsibility: Kelly

Due date: Ongoing

Action Item 6: Continue to discuss membership and representation on NWAC to ensure that vacant sectors are filled and to see if any new sectors should be added.

Responsibility: Kelly and Annemarie

Due Date: ongoing

Annemarie noted that this action item was scheduled for discussion later in the meeting.

Action Item 12 : Bring new draft targets including additional variance for Indicator 5.1.1. to NWAC for review and consideration

Responsibility: Kelly and Trevor

Due Date: For next annual report, to be reported under "Strategies and Implementation."

Action Item 16 : Revisit the feasibility of combining a number of targets for Indicator 5.1.1 that better reflect the economic and community benefits generated specifically in this DFA after the CIFO amalgamation is complete.

Responsibility: Annemarie

Due Date: Sometime in 2016

Annemarie noted that the above two action items, like the other action items related to Criterion 5, would be dealt with throughout the year and brought forward to NWAC members for review.

Action Item 17: Talk to Ray Lutz about recommending an alternate to represent fish and wildlife interests until Ray can return to participate in the meetings.

Responsibility: Annemarie Koch

Due Date: early 2016

Annemarie asked if anyone had been able to contact Ray Lutz to find out if he would suggest anyone to represent fish and wildlife interests until he was able to come back to attending meetings regularly. She noted that the matter of membership was scheduled for discussion later in the meeting.

Kelly noted that Ray's son might be a possible alternate and that she would follow up on this.

Action Item 18: Graham and Kelly and Steve to form a committee to see if WFP will prepare and provide a list of required supplies and services in the DFA that local suppliers and contractors can access to see if they can compete to offer these supplies and services.

Responsibility: Kelly, Steve, Graham

Due Date: June NWAC meeting

Annemarie noted that Kelly had discussed this initiative with senior WFP staff and then communicated with Steve about other ways he might consider working with WFP to find ways to ensure that local suppliers and service providers have an opportunity to bid on contracts and supply goods and services to the company.

Graham noted that he didn't feel that the company should have to provide business specifically to local providers. Kelly noted that it had been suggested that, as an alternative, local businesses approach the local company purchasing agents to identify opportunities to do business.

There was a discussion of how the company's business needs might be matched with what local suppliers of goods and services could offer competitively.

It was agreed that, if WFP was prepared to commit to doing business locally wherever it made business sense to do so, this was acceptable to members present.

Action Item 19: Revise draft 2016 meeting schedule and review and confirm final draft at the March 17,2016 NWAC meeting.

Responsibility: Annemarie

Due Date: March 17,2016 meeting

Annemarie noted that this action item was going to be addressed later in the meeting.

Action Item 20: Revise Criterion 5 target related to community investments along the following lines: '100% of the communities in and with interests in the DFA, namely Woss, Alert Bay,

Sointula, Hyde Creek and Port McNeill receive annual community investments of some type from WFP.'

Responsibility: Kelly

Due Date: April 14th NWAC meeting

Action Item 21: revise 2016 schedule of meetings by adding an April 14th meeting (and dropping the May 19th meeting) to further discuss the 2015 annual report, discuss the all-PAG itinerary and discuss the Criterion 5 indicators with WFP's certification coordinator Will Sloan, and to make a 'certification primer' the topic of the June 2nd meeting and hold that meeting in Woss, with the intent of introducing new people to NWAC and engaging some new membership from the community of Woss. Post revised schedule of meetings on website and distribute to NWAC members.

Responsibility: Annemarie and Kelly

Due Date: March 20, 2016

Action Item 22: add Chris Bowden-Green to the list of NWAC members, post this on the website and include him on the NWAC circulation list.

Responsibility: Annemarie and Kelly

Due Date: March 20, 2016

Action Item 23: invite Woss residents to attend the June 2nd NWAC meeting in Woss, with a view to introducing residents to the work of NWAC and engaging them in the process

Responsibility: Kelly

Due Date: For June 2, 2016 meeting

Action Item 24: talk to Pat English about deferring the EBM presentation from the June 2nd meeting to a future NWAC meeting

Responsibility: Annemarie

Due Date: March 18, 2016

2. Discussion of Proposed Revisions to Criterion 5 Indicator, Kelly McMahon, Area Planner, WFP

Kelly noted that she had talked to Trevor, Randy and Kindry about using financial donations as a target to track. She noted that Port Alberni's target was that the annual financial contribution would be \$1,000, with a variance of \$500.

Kelly noted that senior management was prepared to put forward a figure of \$ 1,000 to \$1,500 with a variance of possibly \$500.

She asked members what they thought of this type of target.

Jon noted that he felt the financial piece was secondary and that it was more important to recognize the various other ways the company contributes to the community.

Jon suggested that the target should be a reporting out on the broader investments that the company makes in the community.

At this point, Annemarie invited NWAC members to introduce themselves for the benefit of Chris Bowden-Green, a Woss community resident who was attending the meeting and had

offered to represent community interests for the group. She apologized for not introducing Chris earlier to the group.

Discussion on the Criterion 5 indicator target resumed and it was suggested that a diversity of in kind contributions and other investments might be part of the target.

It was noted that only 10 percent of 'reporting out targets' were permitted in the plan, so efforts were being made to develop hard targets, such as a financial figure.

Jon noted that a target could be set around diversity of contributions to community and that this might be quantified in some way.

There was a discussion of what 'community means.' Kelly noted that it had been previously determined that the communities were defined as within the Regional District of Mount Waddington, including Woss, Port McNeill and Alert Bay.

Graham pointed to the benefits of thinking and acting regionally.

Jon suggested the following as a target: '100% of the communities in and with interests in the DFA, namely Woss, Alert Bay, Hyde Creek and Port McNeill receive annual community investments of some type from WFP.'

It was agreed to further pursue and develop this target for the appropriate Criterion 5 indicator.

3. Confirmation of 2016 Meeting Schedule For Posting on Website, Annemarie Koch

Annemarie asked members to review the revised meeting schedule and noted that changes that were recommended at the last meeting had been incorporated in this second draft of the schedule.

She noted that Kelly had asked if there could be an additional meeting on April 14th to further discuss the 2015 annual report, the proposed all-PAG meeting, and to discuss proposed revisions to the Criterion 5 indicators with WFP's certification coordinator Will Sloan.

Kelly noted that she thought it would be beneficial for members of the group to have time to have a good conversation around the group and its role in the certification process. She noted that it would be valuable for NWAC members to have more time to talk about their values and how they align with those of the company. She noted that changes were happening and that this made it a good time for NWAC members to discuss with WFP how their interests, from community sustainability to environmental sustainability, could align with the interests of NWAC members. She stressed that what the company did before in communities is not necessarily what they are able to do now because of changes in the industry and in the economy generally.

Graham pointed to the need for the industry to change how it approaches the forest resource to create more value and to generate sustainable revenue and jobs.

It was agreed to adopt and post the 2016 meeting schedule, revised as follows: add an April 14th meeting (and drop the May 19th meeting) to further discuss the 2015 annual report, discuss the all-PAG itinerary and discuss the Criterion 5 indicators with WFP's certification coordinator Will Sloan, and to make a 'certification primer' the topic of the June 2nd meeting and hold that meeting

in Woss, with the intent of introducing new people to NWAC and engaging some new membership from the community of Woss.

4. Discussion of Membership, Kelly McMahon, Area Planner, WFP

Kelly introduced Chris Bowden-Green, a long time Woss resident, as a candidate for NWAC to represent community interests, and invited him to tell the group a little bit about himself.

Chris noted he was an area engineer for WFP and had previously worked for Canfor. He noted that he has lived in Woss for 20 years and been in the fire department for 15 years. He noted he helped out with the ball tournament and various other community events.

It was agreed that Chris should become an official member of NWAC, representing Woss community, and that he should be included in the list of members on the website and receive future invitations to meetings as an NWAC member.

Members of NWAC agreed that Chris would make a good community representative and to add him to the group.

Annemarie noted that two NWAC members, Bill Nelson, representing small contractors and David Jack of B.C. Parks had stepped down from the group recently. She acknowledged that it was important to build and maintain the membership of NWAC.

There was a discussion of the need to fill membership vacancies and to hold people to the membership requirements outlined in the Terms of Reference, in order to achieve the purpose of the Nimpkish Woodlands Advisory Committee.

It was agreed that holding the June 2nd meeting in Woss would be a good idea and that the presentation could be a 'certification primer.' It was suggested that members of the Woss community should be invited to attend and be invited to engage with the committee.

It was agreed that Kelly will work on getting an invitation to the meeting out to Woss residents.

It was agreed that Annemarie should talk to Pat English about the meeting schedule changes that had been made and why, and to let him know that the presentation on EBM would consequently be deferred to next year.

5. Presentation by Kelly McMahon, Area Planner, WFP, on the 2015 Annual Report

Kelly noted that she was still waiting for information for a number of the indicator targets in the plan.

She reviewed the 2015 results for target retention systems and noted that WFP was compliant across the VILUP zones and was doing a very good job of meeting the WFP standards.

Chris reviewed what the retention targets are and how they are measured.

Kelly noted that Englewood has always met its targets on retention.

Kelly reviewed the targets on habitat for protected species, noting some of the protected areas had recently changed.

Kelly reviewed the distribution of species planted, noting there was more cedar and yellow cedar and balsam planted, and less Douglas fir and hemlock planted in 2015.

There was a discussion of why different species are planted at different times and in different places.

Graham asked whether soil and ecological capacity are taken into consideration in planting decisions. Kelly noted that site surveys are done and planting success and forest health is tracked closely.

It was noted that more white pine is being planted because rust resistant strains are being found and planted in areas where they are less susceptible to elk browse.

Graham asked how much the industry was thinking about monitoring planting success. He pointed to the need for more focused silviculture trials and application of tested and successful silviculture techniques. It was noted that it might be a good idea to have a future presentation on forest silviculture trials.

It was noted that changes were needed and that we should be learning from our mistakes in silviculture and focusing more on the future. Kelly acknowledged that a lot of time is spent on harvesting and perhaps less so on silviculture, but that this was being offset by planning discussions that highlight silviculture and production.

Graham called for consideration of pruning in silviculture as a priority. Paul countered that the highest priority for investment in silviculture currently was in fertilization, and added that there are significant investments in silviculture research and applications.

Jon asked whether plantation failure is a common occurrence. It was noted that there was a weevil issue in one area, and that there had been a root rot issue related to nursery stock. It was asked whether drought was an issue and whether there was a climate change strategy.

Jon asked whether burning was being reconsidered as a silviculture tool. Kelly noted that there had been some talk at a divisional level about use of fire.

It was noted that fire had been used more as a tool for fuel management.

Kelly reviewed the indicator around habitat diversity and noted that bear dens, for example, had been preserved, through retention and other means. It was noted that sometimes the den is discovered as after or as the tree is being felled, but that every effort is made to preserve and set aside dens.

Kelly reviewed the indicator on implemented management strategies, including protected areas, parks, OGMA's, UWR's and WHA's. She noted that much is done through these strategies to protect habitat for northern goshawks and marbled murrelets.

Kelly reviewed the indicator around culturally important sites, noting 31 CMT surveys had been carried out by a Namgis crew in 2015.

Kelly reviewed the indicator related to karst values, noting that one block had been managed for karst in 2015. She noted that a sinkhole had been protected in the block and that the karst protection target had been met.

Paul noted there was a karst extension note coming out of the ministry within a month.

Kelly reviewed the indicator related to reforestation and noted that four blocks were being amended for meeting free growing obligations.

She reviewed the indicator related to percent consistency with time to control fires. Kelly noted that, while there had been three man-made fires, the blazes had been put out within a 24 hour period.

Kelly reviewed the indicator related to permanent access and noted that the target had been met for this indicator around road development. There was a discussion of whether spurs were replanted and it was noted that funding tended to be invested in higher priority areas addressing environmental concerns and higher elevation slope stability. It was noted that planting old roads in alder might be something to consider.

Kelly reviewed the indicator around cut control and noted that Englewood is at about 66% for year 3 of the five year period.

It was noted that WFP is sitting at around 106% estimated for the five year period, at this point.

Kelly noted that there had been some slides in 2015 and that some had occurred in high elevation areas where there had been no snow during the harvesting periods, in March and November. It was noted that the cause would be reviewed by a geotechnical engineer and efforts made to determine causes and prevent future slides.

Kelly noted she would report out on remaining indicators at the April 14th meeting, but finished by reviewing the indicator around harvesting profitably around all profile types. She noted that a small overharvest of Douglas fir was related to an adjustment to accommodate TSOL. It was noted that the targets would be closer to target next year as the partnership settled in.

6. Next Meeting:

Annemarie noted that, with confirmation of the 2016 meeting schedule, the next meeting was scheduled for April 14, 2016 and that the topic would be a discussion of the role of public advisory groups in the certification process and Criterion 5 indicators. She thanked members for their ongoing commitment and bid them a safe journey home.