

NICOLA WATERSHED COMMUNITY ROUND TABLE

Forum Planning Committee

November 22, 2018, 8:00 am Brambles

Present: Al Mackay-Smith, Gerry Sanford, Jill Sanford, Tom Reynolds, Nic Beers, Terence Grams, Liis Jeffries, Wayne Schindler

1. Update from Nic re their Flood Mitigation Committee:
 - This committee would like to partner with the NWCRT to look at the whole watershed.
 - Maybe part of the committee could be pulled into the NWCRT.
 - The health of the river and riparian area is still a major concern.
 - Maybe there could be a planning meeting with the Mayor and Patrick Farmer (hydrologist)
 - Some of the discussion areas include the Eldorado Trailer Park (who have had a plan created for their area), the Industrial Zone between the two bridges, the fact that much of the property is private which severely limits access to the rivers, the erosion near the Claybanks area, and the contaminated property near Claybanks where there was an old auto wrecker yard. (Some car bodies can be seen in the bank at this site.)
2. The role of the Round Table is to educate so people can make informed decisions
 - Maybe invite Tracy Thomas and Chris Walder from the new First Nations water use management planning group. A better decision about this will be after Tracy and Chris have met with the whole Round Table to present what research is currently being done in the watershed with the Fraser Basin Council.
 - Can the environmental aspect be used to solicit Federal funds?
 - Someone will have to make hard decisions about flooding mitigation.
3. Round Table Capacity
 - John is willing to be the Facilitator.
 - Kate is unavailable to be the lead organizer for the next forum. (**January 24, 2019** is tentatively booked).
 - Al will be away for a short time immediately prior to the forum date.
 - Nobody else stepped forward as leader but planning continued as everyone said they would help.
 - Finances of the NWCRT.
 - The October 25/18 forums cost approximately \$1200 without having to pay the speaker. There are still one or two small invoices which haven't been received yet so the final total isn't in.

- A paid speaker (one who might be considered “neutral” and non-governmental) would cost \$500 - \$700 including expenses).
 - Therefore we should expect to budget \$2000 for the next forum.
 - Some ideas for sources of revenue include:
 - City of Merritt Grant in Aid for at least the Civic Center rental.
 - Nicola Stock Breeders and/or BC Cattlemen
 - TNRD
4. The NWCRT is for the whole watershed including the community, so the forum should be city focussed but include the Guichon and some other areas.
 5. Ensure the Bands are invited.
 6. The numbered table worked well - ? Marilyn with help from Wayne and Terrence
Pens and paper - Nic
 7. Secure a speaker and /or a panel - ?John, Kate or Judy??
 8. Some ideas
 - Rick McCleary
 - Jeremy Cook - AI
 - Lee Heskith – Maybe for a panel
 - ? Someone Provincial to talk about private dikes and berms.
 - Patrick Farmer
 9. Next planning meeting - TBA - ?Set date at regular NWCRT meeting ***DEC 06, 9AM*** at Brambles.