

**Regular Meeting of the
San Juan County Economic Development Council
Board of Directors – Approved Minutes**

Wednesday March 3, 2009, 8:30-10:30

Attending:

Conference Room: Patty Miller, Randy Martin, Jim Hooper, Ralph Hahn, Liz Illg, Peggy Long, Bruce Gregory, Marilyn O'Connor, Peggy Bill

Guests: Vernadel Peterson, Steve Hushebeck, Cathy Cavanagh, George Johnson, Laura Jo Severson

Phone: Jon Kobayashi, Lance Evans • Absent: Eric Youngren, Scott Webster

Recorder: Victoria Compton

Minutes

Meeting Called to Order

- I. In-kind hours sheet passed around and explained
- II. New Topics
 - a. Presentation by Laura Jo Severson, Chair of the CNTF Transportation Workgroup
 - i. Laura Jo gave background on her involvement with the CNTF Transportation Workgroup
 - ii. Liz outlined CNTF work on transportation
 1. Connecting needs with providers (Pam Fry lead)
 2. Electronic connectivity of transportation services
 3. Creating an LTPO/joining a RTPO
 4. Surveying & analyzing programs available
 - iii. Board discussed EDC transportation project history – e.g., role in the CNTF Communications Workgroup, groundwork that has been prepared
 - iv. Board agreed to form LTPO (local transportation planning organization)
 - v. **AI** for Liz, Laura Jo and Victoria: define what CNTF is going to do and incorporate into EDC's project list.
 - vi. **AI** for Victoria/Cathy: confirm how to get sales/excise tax added to support LTPO.
 - vii. **AI** for Victoria: get update on grant \$ available from State for LTPO/RTPO.
✓ Waiting to hear back from DOT.
 - viii. **AI** for Patty/Victoria: Look at other LTPO's to see org structure
 - ix. **AI** proposed: create transportation meeting between Jon Shannon (Public Works), Pete Rose, Ports, Town of FH
 - x. **AI** for Victoria: re-invite Laura Jo to April meeting **✓done**
 - xi. **AI** for Liz: Liz will continue as liaison to CNTF Transportation Workgroup; will bring monthly status reports to EDC board meetings.
 - xii. Board decided that the EDC will defer to the CNTF/Transportation projects, but will act as liaison between governmental agencies and CNTF, and promote the work that the CNTF does.
 - b. Presentation by George Johnson, Chair of the Community Needs Task Force Communications Workgroup

- i. George gave background on his involvement with the CNTF Broadband Workgroup
 - ii. Definition of/ availability of/need for broadband communication in SJC
 - 1. Definition of “broadband” – used to be 756k, now 5Mbps according to Feds
 - 2. Availability in SJC
 - a. OPALCO has access to NoaNet – consortium of utilities which uses fiber to deliver real-time metering data
 - b. SJC government gets some broadband access from State’s Dept. of Information Services
 - c. Century/Link gets some lit fiber from OPALCO
 - d. Cable available thru Windjammer but only in Town of FH, the Oaks, Eastsound
 - e. Clearwire available only in Town of FH
 - iii. Benefits of improved broadband communication in SJC
 - iv. Benefits of improved broadband
 - a. Creation of jobs
 - b. Increase in business tax revenue
 - v. Potential projects for/participation of EDC
 - 1. Role in the CNTF Communications Workgroup (CNTF/CW),
 - 2. Google Broadband Initiative grant writing
 - 3. Defining position/writing position papers/advocacy
 - 4. ARRA grants – CNTF/CW is already on this
 - vi. **AI** for Ralph: Ralph will act as liaison to CNTF Communications Workgroup; will bring monthly status reports to EDC board meetings.
 - vii. Board decided that the EDC will defer to the CNTF/CW projects, but will act as liaison between governmental agencies and CNTF, and promote the work that the CNTF does.
 - viii. Patty requested that the CNTF/Ralph create a position paper that translated the technobabble into a compelling story that showed why we care about the broadband initiative.
- III. Approval of previous meeting minutes (Feb). – Minutes approved unanimously, with addition of 2010 priorities.
- IV. Operational Issues
 - a. President’s Report
 - i. Query to board: best use of Victoria’s time
 - 1. Business support main focus
 - 2. Participate in CNTF meetings, but don’t take action items
 - ii. Presentation to SJC Council
 - b. Executive Director’s Report
 - i. ADO funding reinstated by Dept. of Commerce
 - ii. Business Class series will start at the end of March
 - iii. Additional notes on presentation to SJC Council
 - c. ARC Coordinator’s Report
 - i. SJCC presentation
 - ii. 2010 Work Plan
 - iii. 2010 priorities
 - iv. Permanent Farmer's Market issues

- V. Additional New Topics
 - a. Liz: Anacortes ferry terminal repaving will be done this summer, expect delays
 - b. Liz: SJC Public Works now owns Orcas Landing
 - c. Marilyn: CNTF Jobs Workgroup – first meeting with Charlie Anderson and Victoria was 2/25/10. Working on priorities and potential projects for the workgroup, and how it will interact with CNTF.
 - i. Ralph: What do we want the economy to look like in the future? That should inform future CNTF Jobs meetings.
- VI. Review of Financials and Budget Expenditures (Feb. – if received from bookkeeper) – not received.
- VII. Continued Business/Correspondence
 - a. Letter from Jamie Stephens – will be sent via email
- VIII. Announcements
 - a. Next meeting will be held Wednesday, April 14th, 8:30-10:30 at the EDC Conference Room.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.