8/16/10 – Planning Committee Minutes

Posted on August 17, 2010 by admin

North Fork Community Development Council's

Planning Committee

Minutes – August 16, 2010

Call to Order 6:00 pm

Attending:

Dan Rosenberg	Sandy Chaille	Sarah Rah
David Konno	Leif Regvall	Joan Constable
Robert Mansfield	Joanne Freemire	Judi Lawrence

North Fork Trails Update — Joanne Freemire walked possible Mill Site trail routes with Harry Stott. They found some problems with eroded areas. They wonder if it would be possible to run a trail through center of property, maybe temporarily? Dan referred details of trails discussions to current working committees on trails, to be condensed into a report that can be presented to NFCDC and other organizations.

California Conservation Corps — Al Orozco of CCC contacted David Konno at Yosemite-Sequoia Resource Conservation and Development. Under Proposition 84, CCC has $25 million available for project labor on trail, watershed or restoration work. Elissa Brown is looking into what's possible to fund. Michael Olwyler is also looking into possibilities.

Solar Project Update – Dan Rosenberg met with Ray Beach and Bill Hayter (consultant to County on solar projects and other matters). Bill said most projects need a minimum of 40 acres for economic viability, 5 megawatts and above — $20 to $25 million projects. NF Mill Site has some advantages: no smog or fog, moderate heat better for PV panels. Solar arrays could be located elsewhere around North Fork, not just at the Mill Site. A project would need open space and access for hooking up to the grid. Mill Site still has high capacity PG&E hookup at old co-gen site. Investor companies build and maintain the system, pay rent to land owner. Other options available, at smaller scale. Reference: Solar Cities, Chevron. Minarets High School might be a possibility. Follow-up to be handled by Dan Rosenberg and Leif Regvall.

Newsletter & Community Newspaper Project — Sarah Rah and Joan Constable presented research on the strategy to start up a newsletter involving all of North Fork's community groups. The concept was publishing a newsprint tabloid — whether monthly, every six weeks, quarterly or whatever. Committee members strongly supported the idea of moving forward. The next step is for Sarah Rah to expand the research memo and circulate it for the North Fork Community Development Council's next board meeting. If NFCDC shows support, the concept paper can be distributed to 30 or more local organizations for their response and input.

Community Gatherings — The idea is to have a social gathering monthly (or whenever) that encourages people to brainstorm ideas informally. Joan suggested a structured game-style format. Dan Rosenberg suggested picking rotating venues. Leif gave the idea of picking a topic for each event. Sarah Rah had followed up on last month's idea to hold a gathering at Town Hall during Fall Festival, but she has had no luck contacting Cathey Thornburg or anyone else to see if Town Hall might be available during late morning-early afternoon time slot. Sandy Chaille suggests trying Women's Club to see if they are coordinating Fall Festival. The possibility of doing community opinion surveys was also discussed.

Stargazing Party –David Konno reported that 45 people brought lawn chairs to the Mill Site to watch the meteor shower display on August 12 from 8:00 pm to midnight. Refreshments were available, and all agreed it was a great event and much fun.

Web Site — Dan announced that the new web site is up and running at www.ImaginingNorthFork.org. However, several committee members reported that they had trouble entering the site. Dan will double-check what the problem might be.

Affordable Housing — Leif will be circulating information on housing concepts. Robert said the County is wrapping up its Housing Element Update within the General Plan.

Adjourn 7:30 pm