

Meeting Minutes
Entiat Valley Economic Development Advisory Board
January 28, 2010
1:00-3:00 p.m.
Entiat Council Chambers----Wade Building

Present:

John Husselton, Peggy Whitmore, Michael Chambers, Lance Hansen, Ray Sandidge, Jackie Shelton, Jackie Blanchfield, Karin Whitehall, Greg Becker, Keith Vradenburg, Susan Driver, and visitor Bill Have (Entiat Park Board and Entiat Tree Board member)

Not Present:

Doug McLester

Business:

Chair Peggy Whitmore called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Minutes of last meeting

October 22, 2009 minutes presented. John Husselton moved. Mike Chambers seconded. Motion passed.

Report from Boards/committees

No reports.

Message from the City Planner

City Planner Susan Driver reported North Central Washington Economic Development District has determined that Entiat's waterfront development is the #1 priority project in NCW. Susan and Bob are planning to break ground in 2012. Marina design and permitting are estimated to cost \$400,000. Susan reported the City did not get a \$200,000 federal economic development grant due to a lack of reported job creation. Susan will be working with the reviewers to re-write and re-submit the grant for further consideration. Greg suggested that perhaps a competition for designing the marina could be held. Incentives that might interest the competing engineers were brainstormed; including keeping Doc Hasting's office updated and focusing on job creation.

KPQ and KOZI have started their monthly mayoral shows.

Message from the Mayor

Mayor Keith Vradenburg reported that the City would be managing the park for another two years; PUD determined private bids to manage the park were too expensive.

Keith has been selected chair of the County Mayors' Committee. They will be meeting regularly with Chelan Co Commissioners to discuss/coordinate county and cities actions.

Hydro Association is working on boat races the weekend after Apple Blossom. Bruce Duncan will be the City's liaison.

Public works director Bob Whitehall is meeting with Jeff Allen DOT re: roundabouts for entrances to Park and grants to install.

City is working with Cal Jordan on the fire station grant. Construction will begin this spring or summer.

City has acquired 40A of BLM property north of Entiat (old dump site). BLM retain mineral rights. Discussions are ongoing regarding 80A to Columbia Breaks and 11A to school district. Property school district is interested in may have some wildlife mitigation commitments.

HWY97A North of Wenatchee/South of Entiat slope stabilization will begin Feb 22. Hwy97A at Rocky Reach dam may be closed for up to four hours at a time Monday-Thursdays for up to 24 working days. Additionally, 15 minutes delays may occur until the project is complete.

Rochelle Feil Adamowsky is the Wenatchee World reporter covering Entiat.

Website Update

The website is up and running. Susan asked the Board to consider adding a video library to the website for a cost of \$100 which would allow us to utilize/link to Youtube and other videos.

John Husselton moved and Karin seconded that the Board recommend to the City Council to invest another \$100 of Tourism Dollars into the website for a video library. Motion passed.

A discussion of how community organization's websites will be incorporated into the City's website ensued. It does not seem prudent to allow community member's access to the City's website for community members to update an organization's page on the city website. Further, the developers/software used for the City's website is different from the software used on various organization's websites, thus the City's web developer cannot train organization members to update their organization's websites.

Community events/meetings/announcements seem to be the most changeable information. The City's website has a calendar feature. Susan will develop procedure for getting events onto the calendar. Can it be melded with school or other calendars without re-entering every item?

We agreed to flesh out the idea of a photo contest to get photos for the website. Jackie Shelton will propose contest categories at the next meeting. Jackie B and John H will approach businesses about prizes.

Tourism promotion

The state tourism website www.experiencewa.com shares little information about Entiat. Board members were asked to explore the site and provide the state with feedback and suggestions for Entiat attractions.

State tourism board is meeting in Wenatchee in February

John H reported Cascade Loop is looking for photos for the cover and inside their brochure. John H has additional information.

Business/Developer information

We concurred it would be good to have information available for people who want to invest in Entiat or start a business here. Susan reported that the City currently has no one person or one place with that information. Susan will develop a list of common questions and consistent answers to give people who call and perhaps include on the web site. Jackie B reported that a new Entiat business owner has done extensive research/information gathering (with SCORE, RSVP etc.) to start up her business and she may be a good resource.

Review and/or set goals for 2010

Continue to work on getting existing businesses involved in the community.

Increase Entiat's visibility to the outside world.

Increase Entiat's civic pride---"Spruce Up, Company's Coming!"

Other/Good of the Order

A discussion of a new city logo ensued. The Chamber has been holding off getting new pamphlets published while waiting to include the new City logo. Susan will contact Courtney regarding a City logo.

Electronic reader board can be improved. Bigger letters, longer viewing time per message and less time seeing transitions between messages was suggested. Keith will take the suggestions forward. Also, we need to suggest more messages for visitors. Board members will bring suggested messages to next meeting.

Chamber wants to do extra events. We discussed:

- Using the Columbia Breaks amphitheater for weekend entertainment.
- A farmer's market was suggested. Mike relayed his experiences starting up a successful farmer's market. It took about five years to become profitable. Competition with Trader John's could be a concern. Visibility would be important to success, perhaps space for one could be incorporated into the waterfront plans.
- A street fair.

John will contact the Chamber regarding events ideas.

Wenatchee World and Lake Chelan Mirror encourage reader blogs, places for reader submitted stories and calendars of events on their web sites. Entiat School has assigned Vickie Stanton the duties of adding blogs to the Wenatchee World website. Her 'handle' is Entiat Tiger PRIDE. It was suggested that the City also blog the Wenatchee World with positive City information. Perhaps Karen Sweeny could create a Wenatchee World blog at least once a week and advertise some of our successes. Board members are also encouraged to use these to share info about Entiat and increase our exposure. People without internet can access these at the Entiat library.

North Central Washington Economic Development District and Wenatchee Chamber are exploring business education classes to put on at the Tech Center. Suggestions can be made and www.surveymonkey.com/s/ncwbusineseducation

Action items for next meeting

Peggy will contact AAA to ask how to get them to give out information about Entiat.

Jackie S will develop categories for photo contest.

Jackie B and John will explore prizes for photo contest.

Susan will develop a list of questions/answers and contact info for new business/investors.

John will contact Chamber regarding events ideas.

Karen Sweeny could create a Wenatchee World blog at least once a week and advertise City's activities and successes.

Everyone

- Visit www.experiencewa.com and provide feedback to the site including things to do in Entiat.
- Blog on the Wenatchee World website and comment on articles or add to reader blog.
- Blog on the Lake Chelan Mirror website.
- Visit www.surveymonkey.com/s/newbusinesseducation and take survey.
- Review "What is there to do in Entiat?" and bring suggest additions/improvements to next meeting. Additional info about Entiat outdoor activities is in Day Hikes in North Cascades and Entiat Country

Next meeting

February 25, 2010

1:00-3:00 p.m.

Entiat Council Chambers----Wade Building

Chair Peggy Whitmore will be out of the country at the time of the next meeting. Karin Whitehall will act as Chair for the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.



US 97A – North of Wenatchee – Slope Stabilization

Location: US 97A, MP 203.9 to MP 205.0

Total Project Duration: 80 work days (Approx. 4 ½ months)
Feb 22nd to approx July 13th

Road Closure Days: 24 closure days (max of 3 separate timeframes) *0830-1600*
Must be completed before May 21st *w/30 min*
Monday through Thursday 8:30AM to 4:00PM *opening @*
Firm Mid Day Opening (noon to 12:30PM) *1200-1230*
2 weeks advance notice will be given for closures
\$1.6K per 15 minute delay liquidated damages
\$10K incentive per closure day not used

Expect 20 minute delays on non-closure work days

No work allowed on Fridays or weekends

Emergency Services (EMS) will have priority through the project site

Speed through the project site will be reduced to 45MPH for safety reasons

Amount of rocks to be scaled off slopes: 2,000 cubic yards (200 dump trucks full)

Amount of bolts and dowels to be installed: 3350 linear feet (over ½ mile)

Amount of cable netting to be hung: 265,260 square feet (approx 4 ½ football fields)

For more project details, see:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/us97a/nwenatcheeslope>