

## **Old Fort Steering Committee Minutes**

**January 23, 2012**

Present: Beth LaShell, Chairman; Tobin Follenweider, SLB; Barbara Harris, FLC Foundation; Mike Kelly, ASFLC; Cynthia Dott, Faculty; Kalen Elliott, Community; Richard Miller, Native American, Roy Horvath, Staff

Absent: Heidi Baskfield, FLC Trustees

Guests: Cecile Gardipe, Mark Gutt and Wayne Kjoonas from Physical Plant; Emory Cowan from Durango Herald

Meeting materials distributed: Agenda, Jan 13<sup>th</sup> minutes; NSF Field Station Information

The meeting was convened in the Cascade room at 4:00 pm.

### **Introductions and Announcements**

#### **Public comment (5 minutes/ speaker)**

None

#### **Approval of January 13<sup>rd</sup> minutes**

Barbara moved to approve the minutes, Cynthia 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried.

### **Old Business**

**Meeting Dates:** 2012 dates are Feb 6, Feb 20, March 12, March 26<sup>th</sup> (Outlook meeting request for March dates will be sent)

**Old Fort Website:** [www.fortlewis.edu/oldfort](http://www.fortlewis.edu/oldfort) ; As approved, minutes are added to website.

#### **Proposal for Non-Academic Use.**

Update: Draft Horse Club did not schedule activity for Feb 11<sup>th</sup> because they felt they shouldn't have to pay a use fee.

#### **FLC Temporary Access Lease and MOU with SLB - Memorandum of Agreement Draft**

Dene should have received a letter from the State Land Board extending the temporary access permit until June 30, 2012. We hope to have the MOA in place by July 1, 2012

#### **Termination Agreement with CSU – No update**

#### **Infrastructure**

Roy Horvath report that he has been working with Ryan Haaland on the Falcon Project (Grant with Physics Dept to track space junk). They are looking at two different sites (on campus and at the Old Fort). Both locations will need to increase bandwidth for the project to operate. Roy has received a bid from a local internet service provider that would provide needed bandwidth to the Old Fort location.

Durango Herald article link: <http://durangoherald.com/article/20111109/NEWS01/711099887&source=RSS>

Relative to the ownership of the buildings on the site. In the separation of Fort Lewis College from the State Board of Agriculture (HOUSE BILL 02-1419) one of the sections reads:

ALL REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY HELD BY THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF FORT LEWIS COLLEGE, INCLUDING THE BENEFICIAL INTEREST IN THE HESPERUS PROPERTY OWNED BY THE STATE BOARD OF LAND COMMISSIONERS AND THE HESPERUS FUND, IS HEREBY TRANSFERRED TO

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES. SUCH TRANSFER SHALL NOT INCLUDE REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY HELD BY THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE FOR ITS OWN BENEFIT.

Does this mean that the buildings were supposed to be transferred to FLC in 2004? No quit claim deed has been filed by CSU so perhaps they could be transferred to the SLB in 2012.

### **Water and Sewer System**

Beth has met with one additional water treatment team (Blake Mechanical and Johnny Frank ) to gather information on upgrading the chlorination and filtration system. She will meet with an additional team (Brooks Well Service and Ed Glass) next week to find out more information on design alternatives.

Tobin indicated that the design will need to have a Colorado Professional Engineers stamp of approval because the \$30,000 that the SLB is contributing comes from their base budget. While the SLB is only required to meet the County Planning and Health department requirements, it was Wayne and Mark's recommendation that we follow Public Water System requirements. If this becomes a SLB project, we will need to follow its procurement process with FLC people acting as agents.

**Electrical System** - No updates received from LPEA or Rural Development.

**Equipment Lease with CSU** - No Update.

**Designating Special Use Areas** - No update.

### **Response to Buffalo Council Document**

Tobin and Amy have drafted a FAQ document that they will distribute to the committee for comments. This document addresses ownership of property, buildings and minerals, use of property and Hesperus Account. Tobin ask about the name he should use for the property. Referencing earlier minutes of the Steering Committee when we discussed this, "Old Fort Lewis at Hesperus" was selected.

The mineral ownership appears to be the most complex issue because there are several documents in succession that give us the correct answer. Sources include statutes, administrative decisions and AG opinions. If an entity only looks at one document they may come to a different conclusion.

Additionally, Senator Bacon , Senate Education Committee has requested a meeting with SLB about the "murky" situation at Hesperus.

### **New Business:**

#### **Identifying Academic programs – Comments**

Science based curriculum will be easier to attract because of resources (ecosystems)

Summer courses are easiest

Important to maintain access to all land

Drawbacks include transportation costs, perceived time , van rental process, faculty commitment

Internships are a great place to start attracting other disciplines

Environmental Studies seems like a good fit because students are interested in Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resources. Cynthia is on their committee and can represent our interests.

Beth has been trying to meet with departments (Physics, Engineering, Environmental Studies are done) while GeoSciences and Biology are scheduled for this Spring) to gather their ideas for the Old Fort.

What about other entities (SWCC, Adult Ed, Continuing Ed, SJC)? Could they offer classes that our students could take along with the community? What type of financial relationship would be needed? Is there a precedent for use of FLC facilities already?

### **Designating the site as a Field Station**

Beth distributed information from an NSF website that offers planning and assessment grants for Marine and Biological Field Stations for up to \$25,000 (next cycle Jan 2013). These monies could be used to help us determine what would be needed at the Old Fort. If we proceed with the Field Station concept, additional NSF grant money may be available for infrastructure upgrades (buildings, labs, water, sewer, etc). The website is <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2012/nsf12505/nsf12505.htm#summary>

#### **Revenue Generation – Notes from First Meeting:**

Leverage current resources; maintain revenue generating enterprises

Make monies from SLB leases available for operations/capital improvements

#### **Developing guidelines for approving projects**

**Connection with academic programs**

**Student-based**

**What type of front-end investment is needed?**

**How will project use resources (destructive versus sustainable)?**

**Will it restrict access for other users?**

**Does it interfere with other uses or users?**

**Is it an exclusive or non-exclusive use?**

**What is the long term commitment?**

**What is the long term viability (financially and academically)?**

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting. Kalen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm

Next Meeting topics. Continue discussion of topics

**Adjourn 6:00 pm**