

## **Old Fort Steering Committee Minutes**

**February 6, 2012**

Present: Beth LaShell, Chairman; Tobin Follenweider, SLB; Barbara Harris, FLC Foundation; Heidi Baskfield, FLC Trustees; Cynthia Dott, Faculty; Richard Miller, Executive Director for Research, Planning, and Assessment, Roy Horvath, Staff

Absent: Mike Kelly, ASFLC; Kalen Elliott, Community

Guests: Amy Stengel, AG office

Meeting materials distributed: Agenda, Jan 23<sup>th</sup> minutes; FLC Strategic Plan (pp 12-13)

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

### **Introductions and Announcements**

**Public comment (5 minutes/ speaker)** None

**Approval of January 23<sup>rd</sup> minutes**

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

### **Old Business**

**Meeting Dates:** 2012 dates are Feb 20<sup>th</sup>, March 12 and March 26<sup>th</sup>

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

**Update: Lease with SouthWest Conservation Corp has been received and uploaded.**

**Proposal for Non-Academic Use.**

Heidi has received a draft of the written agreement from Fred K and will have it done this week.

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

These two issues were discussed at the BOT meeting where they identified these outstanding issues:

A joint approach from FLC and SLB to CSU should be made to address specific financial requests related to water, sewer and electricity upgrades. A strategy will need to be developed.

Ownership of mineral rights. Update: Tobin and Amy are confident that this issue has been resolved and the SLB is the owner of the mineral rights.

Ownership of improvements needs to be formally established.

### **Infrastructure**

#### **Water and Sewer System**

Beth has met with four water-treatment teams to gather information on upgrading the chlorination and filtration system. The teams have given her their general recommendations and ballpark figures for the cost of the upgrade. In

addition to the cost of the chlorination and filtration system, FLC will need to upgrade the electrical panels in the pumphouse and have a cover made for the collection weir. These items could be an additional \$10-15,000.

Tobin indicated that the SLB cannot accept federal funds, grants, gifts or donations so if we plan to submit a grant to Southwest Water Board, Fort Lewis College should manage the project.

**Update: Beth will meet with Steve Schwartz on February 14<sup>th</sup> to talk about the next steps.**

The committee discussed the option of installing an interim chlorination system and decided that we should focus on getting the upgrade done as soon as possible.

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

In order to make a request of CSU, we really need a number and an evaluation. Beth will check with Steve Schwartz and physical plant about having an assessment done.

**Update: Roy, Beth and Ken Francis have a teleconference call with Duane Dale, USDA Rural Development on February 14<sup>th</sup>.**

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

**Designating Special Use Areas –**

Karen Wilde has indicated that she'll designate an alternative person to help us with this issue.

**Response to Buffalo Council Document**

As mentioned earlier, the SLB has concluded, based on research, that the SLB owns the mineral rights. They would like to confirm their conclusion with the Bureau of Land Management who typically owns the mineral rights for federal lands.

Tobin has spoken with Senator Bacon, Senate Education Committee, and explained some of the issues that the SLB and FLC are working to resolve. After the conversation, Senator Bacon's questions were answered.

Tobin and Amy drafted a FAQ document that was distributed to the committee. The committee asks that the following issues be clarified:

FLC's relationship to CSU and the State Board of Agriculture prior to the 2002 separation agreement.

Rights of lessees to generate revenue.

Reasoning behind insurance requirements for non-FLC users of the property

Further clarification of previous mineral leases

Amy Stengel will update the FAQ document and send it to the committee.

**Update: FAQ document was sent to committee on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>**

**Identifying Academic programs**

The committee reviewed their ideas from previous meeting and discussed how we can turn these ideas into action. We had questions about user fees paid by other institutions when they use FLC facilities. While we all see this as an educational opportunity for the region, which comes first... academic programs or partners? We also reviewed page 12-13 of the Action Items for Strategic Plan Goals for Fort Lewis College, 2012-2016 which include the following goals:

**Capitalize on Fort Lewis College's location:**

- a. **Develop and enhance relationships with the surrounding area schools, organizations, and businesses.**

- b. **Use the natural advantages of the Durango area wherever possible in planning the college's curricular and co-curricular offerings. Invest in and promote those academic programs, athletic programs, and co-curricular activities that take advantage of our strategic location.**

The committee would like to work together with the administrators responsible for these goals.

**Update: Dr. Barbara Morris was unable to attend the meeting. Beth has scheduled a meeting on Feb 20<sup>th</sup> to share the committee's ideas with her and report back to the committee.**

### **Revenue Generation**

Objectives and Strategy items from previous meeting were reviewed. They will be drafted into a working document so that projects can be evaluated.

A brainstorming session on how hunting on the property could be a revenue generating opportunity followed. Tobin explained that traditional leases for public hunting generate \$1.65/acre/year. Private recreational leases generate \$8-10/acre/year but require additional auditing by the SLB. Additional options include offering a request for proposals where licensed outfitters could bid for season hunting and talking with Patt Dorsey, DOW about the Ranching for Wildlife program. Given our current academic uses and other lessees, the committee believes that opening up the property for public access is not an option. Patt Dorsey or another DOW representative should be invited to a meeting so that we can gather additional information.

### **New Business**

#### **Update for community members who attended Breen meeting in 2011**

In February, 2011, a community meeting was held at the Breen Grange building by the Financial Feasibility Task Force. Members attending were invited to share an email address with the committee so that we could send them updates. Barbara and Roy suggested that we should send them an update since it has been a year. After discussion, the committee decided to send an email with a cover letter telling them about the Old Fort Steering Committee website and attaching the final FAQ document and perhaps an academic planning piece. Roy and Barbara will work on drafting the email.

**Update: Roy has drafted a proposed email**

#### **Historic Library Restoration – Ken Francis was unavailable**

**Richard moved to adjourn the meeting. Cynthia 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm**

**Next Meeting topics. Continue discussion of topics**