

**Community Transition Advisory Committee (CTAC)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**February 11, 2010**

CTAC meeting was held on 2/11/10 in the Extension Office conference room in Whitehall.

*Attendees* were Tim Dimock, Bob Brock, Paula Johnston, Liz Kidwell, Ed Handl, Roy McBride, Tim Mulligan, Mary Hensleigh, Paul Shaw, Leonard Wortman, Tara Mastel, Tom Harrington and Nancy Wheeler. *Guest:* Gary Sundseth.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Tom called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. He introduced new committee members, Paul Shaw and Leonard Wortman and introductions were made. Tom gave a brief overview of CTAC for the new members.

**2. Minutes of Last Meeting**

Tim D. made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 1/21/10; Ed seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as published.

**3. Golden Sunlight Mine (GSM) Operations**

**a. Current Operations Update**

Tim D. said the mine currently has 150 employees and 58 contractors. The Barrick 2009 Safety Award ceremony was held Monday at the mine. Prior to Monday's ceremony, an evening dinner was held Sunday in Bozeman. GSM received an award for *Most Improved Small Mine* and Ray Fitzpatrick, Mill maintenance employee, received the *Safety Champion Award*. A mine tour followed the ceremony.

**b. Pit Lay Back Progress / Concentrator Feasibility Status**

GSM has three new additional haul trucks bringing their fleet to 12 haul trucks. The trucks are being used initially to backhaul soil from the east to the west so the new dumps on the west side can be reclaimed. Tim D. said there is concurrent reclamation going on; the majority of the dumps up there have been re-sloped and started placing soil so dumps can be reclaimed. Tim D. said the mine is starting to meet their targets. The mill startup date will be January, 2011, contingent on the east area being permitted in time.

The mine had a positive meeting with Gold Strike Mine the beginning of the year on the Concentrator project. To keep the project on schedule, the mine is requesting a preliminary approval for \$2.5 million of detailed engineering on the project. Full approval for the project is needed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. One of the key parts of the project is rail transportation of the concentrate from GSM to the mine in Nevada. The mine has been talking to Montana RailLink and other contractors that could provide that service for them and looking at utilizing some of the mine land to build a load out facility. Because of the process, there is a need for more rail loading facilities and some interest from third parties has been generated. Tim D. said the engineer would be helping design the potential railroad facility. Tom said the engineer for the business park and the engineer for the concentrator project need to connect to talk about infrastructure needs. Tim D. said the east area project feasibility work is progressing on schedule. Presently are doing geotechnical drilling and updating the grade model from the drilling last summer and both projects should be initiated this quarter.

**c. Wind Development Update**

Tim D. said Gamesa was on site last week. Gamesa has been in contact with Sea Wind, who leases the land from GSM for wind development. Tom said staff also met with Gamesa and she was talking about 20 jobs. Gamesa is waiting for the PSC to set a price on the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) as a contract is needed to sell wind. Tim D. said the MSTI power line will also make the project more attractive as power will be able to be shipped out of Montana.

**4. GSM Environmental Update**

Mark is in Nevada with other Barrick North American Mine Environmental Managers, developing a strategy for improving the environmental management systems. Tim D. reported there are no new updates

on the environmental side except the mine has begun preparing to upgrade their potable water system to meet the disinfection by-product requirement.

## **5. Safety Fair – April 23 & 24**

Tim D. said John Stratton contacted him about the Safety Fair and said the mine has been supportive of the Safety Fair the last three years and is happy to continue with the program. Tim D. asked for CTAC feedback regarding the value of the program and if it's an event they'd like to see continue annually. After discussion, it was decided to continue with the Safety Fair as it's beneficial to the community and a good, worthwhile program. The Safety Fair will be held Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Jefferson River Rally.

## **6. Sunlight Business Park Overview**

### **a. Phase II Grant Status**

Tara said funding for the park is in place and staff is in the process of doing paperwork to get the money flowing. JLDC was awarded the EDA grant for \$655,000 and that amount will be matched by a loan from the county. JLDC also received a special Congressional appropriation through Senator Tester's office and that money will be used as well for park infrastructure. Tara said quite a bit of paperwork is required before funds are released for this grant also.

### **b. Subdivision Update**

Staff met yesterday with the engineers working on the lot rewrite for the development of the first 48 acres of the park. The process is underway and the lot rewrite is expected to be submitted to the DEQ within the next couple weeks. Tara said JLDC expects to solicit bids in May and break ground early summer.

### **c. TIFD Update**

Two TIFDs, one in the northern end of the county and one in the southern end of the county, were created the end of 2009. This means any increase in the taxable value of the base level of last year's taxes can be used for public infrastructure in the TIFDs that is a barrier for industrial development. It allows JLDC to borrow against future income to do improvements up front and is an incentive for people to build in the district. An Advisory Board, comprised of community members, was established and the first Advisory Board meeting was held Wednesday. The board is in the process of developing their Work Plan, which will consist of the key infrastructure projects that need to be in place to spur on industrial development. Tara said JLDC has marketing materials for the business park and circulated the Master Plan that details everything about the park and a smaller brochure that will be mailed to people expressing an interest in locating in the park.

## **7. Pavilion Status – GSM Assistance**

Friday, a group of people staked out some tentative locations for the pavilion and decided to have it located on the west side of the Fire Hall in the same area past years' barbeques have been held. There will need to be some coordination with other agencies and the town will run power to the park. The plan is to have the pavilion in place before this summer's Frontier Days. Tim D. said to let the mine know what they can do to help.

## **8. Other Items of Discussion**

**a.** Mary said the skating rink is on hold until next November, if the property is still available, and she will research the best options for skating rinks over the summer.

**b.** Tara said JLDC is in the process of purchasing the Borden's building. A public meeting was held Tuesday night to seek input from the community on what folks would like to see happen with the building. There was good input and interesting possibilities. Staff asked for community volunteers to serve on a Working Group committee. Tara said the first order of business is to repair the roof and get the building cleaned out. JLDC hopes to have some businesses occupy the building soon as the cost of insurance dramatically decreases when the building has occupants. A number of businesses have approached staff with

ideas that are very encouraging. Bids for the roof and the cleanup are due tomorrow and a few bids for each of the projects are expected. Further discussion on the Borden's followed.

### **9. Next Meeting**

Next meeting is **Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010** at the Extension Office Conference Room in Whitehall at **8:00 a.m.** Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Note taker,

Nancy Wheeler