

Community Transition Advisory Committee (CTAC)

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 11, 2019

The CTAC meeting was held in the Borden's conference room in Whitehall. Attendees were Tom Harrington, Bruce Binkowski, Dan Banghart, Chuck Buus, John Sullivan, Alison Richardson, Gerry Keough, Ed Handl, Jan Thorne, and Aubrie Boline. Guests Melissa Jenkins (Whitehall Ledger), Steve Lloyd (Barrick Golden Sunlight Mine), and Paul Babb (NorthWestern Energy).

1. Meeting started at 8:03 a.m. followed by introductions. March minutes were approved.
2. **GSM Operations (GSM):** Dan B. presented.
 - a. **Safety Report** – No reportable injuries for over 400 days. No spills reported.
 - b. **Current Operations Update** – Monthly production was 3300 ounces, which was below projections. Underground and mill exceeded targets.
 - c. **Employment Status** – 53 employees and 108 contractors.
 - d. **Exploration** – Ongoing.
 - e. **Third Party Ore Processing** – Closed down for the season.
 - f. **West High Wall** – Monitoring in progress.
 - g. **Concentrator Project** – Looking at using existing buildings and infrastructure as alternatives to a new \$40 million facility.
 - h. **Infrastructure Project** – Moving forward with getting power to the Apex portal. Beginning water line project in mid-May.
 - i. **Other** – Underground mining will continue until the end of April. The mill will run in April and once more in May. Communication sent out yesterday to GSM employees that Barrick anticipates a workforce reduction beginning September 30. Kevin Cook is conducting an ICMM audit. Looking at doing a community survey through MSU Billings.
3. **GSM Environmental Update:**
 - a. **Permit Updates** – None.
 - b. **Reclamation** – Ongoing. Working with Smith Construction to push topsoil.
 - c. **Closure Planning** – Conducting studies to potentially fill the pit with tailings. Studying water treatment technology.
 - c. **Other.** None.
4. **Sunlight Business Park (SBP) Overview:**
 - a. **Science, Technology and Innovation Committee (STI)** – Internet expansion slowed down by frozen ground but starting to pick up again. Discussed alternative energy. Space inquiries at the business park.
 - b. **Wind Project Update** – Developer is relocating to Whitehall and signed a contract to construct a new building.
 - c. **Facility Expansion** – Interest from several parties looking for building space.
6. **Town of Whitehall** – Spring cleaning the week of April 23. Working on the drainage project. Working to get a RV dump site. Sidewalk and pothole repairs and weed spraying will start as summer approaches. MEDA assessment is potentially scheduled for October. A council seat is open. The TIF board is taking applications for the façade improvement program due April 15.
7. **Pipestone Creek/Jefferson Slough Update** – Remote sensor to be installed next week in the slough. Work is starting on the stream bank at the Smith Ranch. No reports of flooding yet. Working with Montana Tech to conduct ground water studies in the Boulder Valley.
8. **Whitehall Chamber** – Easter egg hunt on Saturday. Black Tie Blue Jeans on May 4h. Circus coming to Whitehall in June.
9. **Schools** – Time of year for finance negotiations. State music and Missoula Children's Theatre is coming to the elementary school to put on a play. Conducting interviews for teachers and new high school principal.
10. **Jefferson County** – A meeting will be held Tuesday to discuss the I-15 development in Boulder. The tourism website is live. Working on a Halloween event for October. Liberty Place and Jefferson County are working together to produce a 60s radio show for Sundays at 6pm.
11. **Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP)** – Bird watching is becoming an increasingly popular hobby.

12. Other Items of Discussion – NorthWestern Energy power outage on April 16 from 1-6am. May have opportunity to learn about the drones working in the mine underground at the end of April. Safety Fair is scheduled for May 17.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 am and the next meeting is set for May 9, 2019.