

Meeting #26
October 8, 2014
Field Trip SUMMARY

Meeting Attendees

Community Working Group members present:

Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce
Roy Chavez - Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners
Bill Vogler – Superior Copper Alliance
Nancy Vogler – LOST Trail
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior

Community Working Group members not present:

Evelyn Vargas – Cobre Valley Medical Center
Nancy Vogler – LOST Trail
Dominic Perea – Superior Junior-Senior High School
Steven Byrd – Superior Junior-Senior High School
Matt Nelson – Arizona Trail Association
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association alternate
Mark Siegwarth – Boyce Thompson Arboretum
Kiki Peralta – Superior Rotary Club
Nina Crowder – Superior Rotary Club alternate
Patrick O'Donnell – Superior Unified School District #15
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Homeowners Association
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board
Jeff Bunkelmann – Central Arizona College
Michael Lira – Central Arizona College
Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Fire Department
Mark Nipp – Town of Superior
George Martin – JF Ranch
Lynn Martin – JF Ranch

Resolution Copper Company:

Jim Schenck – Manager for Communities & Social Performance
Michael Betom – Community Relations

Facilitator – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA)

John Godec
Debra Duerr

Visit to San Carlos Apache Tribal Cultural Center

Presenter: Mr. Herb Stevens, Director of SCAT Cultural Center

Several Community Working Group members made a visit to the San Carlos Apache Cultural Center to learn more about Apache culture and history. Many members were unable to attend this field trip since it was held in the afternoon.

The group was hosted by Mr. Herb Stevens, the director of the center, who told us his Apache name is Tu Ban Diijada. Mr. Stevens introduced himself by sharing his lineage, and provided an extensive tour of the displays and artifacts in the museum. He provided an overview of the different Apache bands, their current population, and where they live.

Exhibits at the cultural center include ancient artifacts used for hunting and cooking, traditional musical instruments, jewelry and clothing, games, and examples of dwellings. Mr. Stevens provided an overview of the more recent history of military and settler relations with the native people, illustrated by displays describing periods such as 'invasion', 'assimilation by force', and 'forced confinement' on reservations.

Some of the traditional customs he described for the group included seasonal cultivation and hunting practices, and food preparation and uses. He told the group about the Sunrise Dance, a coming-of-age ceremony for young women, as well as other dances and songs. He noted that several examples of these can be found on YouTube by searching "White Mountain spirit dancers". He described the Apache origins story and said that the language is related to the Athabascan cultures, so the Apache are 'cousins' to the Navajo. Many things in Apache culture and art revolve around the number 4; for example, four directions, four seasons, four colors. Mr. Stevens is an artist and teaches classes on a number of traditional arts, crafts, and food; he taught the group some phrases in the Apache language. Mr. Stevens was a most gracious and welcoming host, and the group thanked him for taking time to help them learn more about the Apache people.

Next Community Working Group Meeting:

5:30 PM

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Meeting Location

Superior Chamber of Commerce

165 W. Main Street

Superior AZ