

Meeting #50
December 14, 2016
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Attendees

Community Working Group members present:

Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Fire Department
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior
Karen Jones – San Carlos Apache Tribe
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club
George Martin – JF Ranch
Lynn Martin – JF Ranch
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board
Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce
Fernando Shipley – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center Board
Jeff Bunklemann – Central Arizona College
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison
Nancy Vogler – LOST Trail
Bill Vogler – Superior Copper Alliance
Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce alternate
Arlynn Godinez – Superior Unified School District Board / Maricopa County

Community Working Group members not present:

Tiffany Rowell – Superior resident
Mark Siegwarth – Boyce Thompson Arboretum
Roy Chavez - Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners

Resolution Copper Company:

Jim Schenck, Communities Manager
Mary Morissette, Environmental Permitting

Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA)

John Godec
Debra Duerr

Speakers:

Mary Morissette - Resolution Copper

Public Guests:

Tom Spridgen – Rotary Club of Superior
Dolores Hatfield – Rotary Club of Superior
Chris Postel – Ray FCU/WNRCD

Introductions & Housekeeping

Everyone introduced themselves. John Godec introduced Tom Spridgen who may be able to join the CWG as a representative of the Superior Rotary Club, should the CWG like to invite him. The group has been seeking a Rotary representative for some time.

Godec reminded the group that we had a presentation on the Apache Leap Special Management Area (ALSMA) at the last meeting. Because the Forest Service is asking for public input, Resolution has developed a comment letter to submit to the Forest Service. Mary Morissette will talk about this briefly, as an example of something the CWG might like to develop. There is, of course, no obligation to submit comments.

A CWG member also asked what the exploration work south of Superior is. Jim Schenck said that is being done by Rio Tinto, and Resolution does not know anything about it. He will research this.

Resolution Comment Letter on Apache Leap ALSMA Plan

Mary Morissette, Resolution

Mary Morissette noted that comments to the Forest Service need to be direct and clear. She read the letter prepared by Resolution, which specified the uses that Resolution Copper Company wants to preserve in the area in future. These are outlined in the land exchange legislation. In addition, the company is asking to retain grazing permits and to be able to use all existing roads.

Morissette said she is relying on the CWG to coordinate with the Recreation User Group (RUG) since that group will not meet before comments are due at the end of January. She urged everyone to request that all important current uses be retained.

Godec said the ALSMA will designate about 900 acres, and the uses are focused on preserving cultural resources. Consultation with the Town of Superior and Resolution is required, as is consultation with Native American tribes. Godec noted that the plan could possibly restrict some recreation uses, so the RUG is looking at it very carefully. The Forest Service is asking for comments by the end of January. After that there will be a public comment period on a draft plan, scheduled to occur in March. Typically, this is for 30 days.

A CWG member asked how we will know if the Forest Service receives and considers our comments. Morissette responded that they will have a scoping period and must document comments received during that. It is unlikely that comments would not be received. CWG comments, if submitted, will be sent via Certified Mail.

Godec asked if the group would like to develop and submit comments on this plan. All agreed that they would like to do this. The facilitators offered to draft a letter for the group to review before the next CWG meeting. This will be emailed to CWG members for review, and it can be finalized at the January 11 CWG meeting. The following is a list of the specific uses the CWG wishes to see continued in and adjacent to the ALSMA:

- Continued historical use by the community of Superior and its youth
 - Rock climbing
 - Flying kites & paper airplanes

- Parties & gathering
- Hiking (via FR 2440 and overland – entire area has been traversed)
- Access via Cross Canyon Road, FR 2440
- Access to the crosses (this is not in the ALSMA)
- Hunting
- Grazing
- Birding
- Maintain the viewshed

Morissette suggested that the CWG should emphasize existing uses that they would like to have continued. The RUG is mainly concerned about future uses. She offered to prepare a draft letter that reflects what the RUG has discussed, using specific mileages, etc. A CWG member asked if two separate letters from the CWG and RUG would be more effective than one joint one. It was agreed that one letter is sufficient, since NEPA doesn't distinguish this way and all comments are considered equally.

Mr. Schenck and Ms. Morissette were thanked and excused from the rest of the meeting.

Meeting Plan for 2017 for CWG & Subcommittees

Godec told the group that Resolution has expressed the need for a more restrictive budget to support the activities of the CWG in 2017, and to accommodate that he suggested that we hold 10 CWG meetings in 2017. Through further discussion, the CWG agreed that this makes sense.

The Recreational Users Group (RUG), a subcommittee of the CWG, is planning to meet 6 times next year, and these meetings would be scheduled to be held on the same days as CWG meetings to save some time and expense.

Also, the Community Monitoring Task Force is getting started. Lynn Martin reported on the consultant review and selection process for the community water quality sampling and monitoring that resulted in selection of Southwest Groundwater Consultants. An initial meeting with the third-party consultant will be organized in January, if possible. All CWG members are invited to attend this if they wish.

Godec asked if we could combine the Historic Preservation Task Force work with the CWG meetings, but the task force members were not comfortable with this. They suggested that we should plan for two more meetings of the task force to get additional information from Resolution and to finish their exploration of grants and future possibilities. One thing they would like to do is speak with Tom Foster from Bullion Plaza Mining Museum in Globe. In explaining the objectives of this task force, Lynn said they have spent a lot of time waiting for Resolution to complete its studies of the smelter and associated buildings, which have been done. At a future CWG meeting the task force will give a presentation to the larger group and these issues can be discussed, and make recommendations if desired. It will be important to

develop a 'priority list' so we're ready to suggest projects as and when funding becomes more available.

Godec mentioned that Resolution has suggested that it might be willing and advisable for the company to find compensatory land for the tailings site. There have been some discussions about forming a Conservation Lands subcommittee to look at this issue, but nothing has been started yet. Fred Gaudet noted that the Arizona Trail Association EIS scoping letter suggested that Resolution could acquire right-of-way from Oracle to Superior through State Land, from 50 feet to ½ mile in width, to mitigate for the impacts of the tailings pile on the Trail. There was discussion about current use and intensity of use at the tailings site, who uses it, where they might be interested in going instead, etc. A member asked if Resolution is still keeping their eyes open for alternative tailings sites; it was thought that they must be. The facilitators will keep track of this issue.

Regarding the Community Investment Subcommittee, Godec reminded that group that Rebecca Darling explained the company's thinking at the last meeting. In response, several members of the CWG noted that the group was uncomfortable with the way the message was delivered, and would have appreciated having Vicky Peacey or someone familiar to the CWG come and talk with them. Several group members interpreted this discussion as 'squashing' the idea of a community fund, and rather outlining several specific smaller initiatives that Resolution will undertake instead. The CWG requested a clear statement from Resolution of whether they intend to establish a community fund or not, and in what timeframe.

The group had an insightful discussion of the role and purpose of the CWG, how it's evolved, how trust has been built, and relationships that have been developed.

2017 Meeting Topics

Godec pointed out the list of topics previously covered in CWG meetings. Kami Ballard will present the final visual simulations at the January meeting. Two other topics that the group expressed interest in are Native American (specifically Apache) concerns and real estate issues. Godec suggested that the CWG might want to ask Andrew Lye, the new project manager, come in to speak with them. He noted that the Forest Service has committed to attend several, up to 4, meetings in 2017.

The group expressed an interest in further exploring mitigation for tailings site water quality and water protection measures. This might include more explanation of the Mine Plan of Operations. They would like to ask Resolution to provide specifics on plans, protection measures, mitigation measures, 'what if' scenarios, commitments in the case of emergencies, etc. Also, they would like to invite Frank Deal or Heather Gluski to provide results of tailings site characterization studies, supposed to be completed this December.

The group suggested that Grady Gammage be invited back to speak to the group, this time about real estate and development issues. Godec mentioned others who might be able to

address the topic of real estate and development that have been recommended to him by a respected local economist, Alan Maguire. Mr. Maguire may also be a future speaker for the group.

Another request was made for more explanation of all project mitigation measures (from Resolution and possibly Forest Service), and when they would come into play. The group would also like more information about what the next opportunities for public input into the EIS will be. For Forest Service meetings, it might be desirable for the CWG to put together questions and requests in advance and let them know.

Attendance & Membership

Godec asked the group if they would like to consider inviting Tom Spridgen to join the CWG as a Rotary Club representative. Mr. Spridgen left the room for a brief discussion and a consensus of the CWG agreed to invite Mr. Spridgen as the newest member of the CWG. He accepted and was welcomed by the group.

Godec reminded the group of the operating policies that outline desired attendance for members. He noted the CWG members who have missed a significant number of meetings this year. According to the agreed-upon operating policy of the CWG, membership is generally determined by a consensus of the existing members. The group had an extensive and candid discussion about membership and attendance and it was decided that, in general, they would prefer that the CWG members who missed several meetings in 2016 continue their membership if possible. They asked the facilitators to speak with several members to determine their current situation and interest in continuing their participation in the CWG. Two CWG members offered to try to identify additional people who might be willing to join as representatives of groups that are vocally opposed to the Resolution project including the Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners Coalition, as they feel that this perspective is important to the CWG's deliberations. The Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners Coalition has been represented on the CWG from the group's beginning but the representative has attended only one meeting of the group in 2016. The representative has indicated an interest in continuing with the group but has not committed to attending meetings. It was agreed by the group that this question would be resolved at the January CWG meeting. On another note, Arlynn Godinez reported that although she now works for Maricopa County Education Service Agency she is also on the Superior School Board, and so would likely be able to represent this body on the CWG; the group agreed this would be very helpful, considering the CWG's desire to reflect the needs of the community's youth.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 11, 2017
Superior Chamber of Commerce
5:30pm light dinner for CWG members and invited speakers
6:00pm Meeting