

**March 14, 2018**  
**MEETING SUMMARY**

**Meeting Attendees**

*Community Working Group members present:*

Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Fire Department  
Jim Schenck – Rebuild Superior  
Sylvia Werre – Top of the World  
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club  
Fernando Shipley – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center Board  
Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior  
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association  
Tiffany Rowell – Superior community  
Todd Pryor – Town of Superior  
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance  
Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce  
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison

*Community Working Group members not present:*

Karen Kitchayan Jones – San Carlos Apache Tribe  
Tom Spridgen – Rotary Club of Superior  
Arlynn Godinez – Superior Unified School District Board / Maricopa County  
Jeff Bunklemann – Central Arizona College  
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board  
Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce alternate  
George Martin – JF Ranch  
Lynn Martin – JF, JI Ranch  
Henry Munoz – Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners  
Roy Chavez - Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners

*Resolution Copper Company:*

Melissa Rabago – Communities Coordinator  
Hesston Klenk – Manager of Communities

*Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA)*

John Godec, Debra Duerr

*Speakers:*

none

*Public Guests:*

Melvin Werre – Top of the World

## **Introductions & Housekeeping**

John Godec welcomed everyone. Members noted that the Mining Festival is this weekend, with the theme of Women in Mining. There is an opening event on Friday night, a parade on Saturday, and many other events.

## **Recreation User Group, Historic Preservation, Community Monitoring Updates**

The RUG cancelled their meeting today, since there was not enough progress on the trail plan yet. They plan to meet again on April 11. The Community Monitoring task force has a question about how it will be funded in future. Resolution and the facilitators will check on the status of a new task order for Southwest Groundwater Consultants. Historic Preservation will actually be the subject of tonight's CWG meeting.

## **Discussion on Superior Historic Legacy Project**

Godec reminded the group that at the last meeting Resolution described the stack and West Plant demolition plan and schedule. At that time, the CWG decided it would like to work on a historic legacy plan over the next few months before the demolition.

A member said that there has been quite a bit of communication and discussion within the community about this plan and, further, about Resolution's plans for future community investments. It was reported that Rebuild Superior made a presentation at a Town Council work session, which some did not know about. Resolution hosted a public meeting last week as well; the notes from this meeting are included in the CWG packets. Also, one of Resolution's consultants had a meeting where they laid out the company's top social investment priorities, which include a multi-generational center, a mining museum, and downtown revitalization. Melissa Rabago reflected that surprisingly few people have come to meetings or submitted comments. The CWG discussed possible reasons for this. Some felt that seeking comments without any commitment for action may seem like a waste of time to people. Broken trust between the community and mines historically has been a factor, and there is cynicism that the company will do what they say.

The Mayor has asked to work with Resolution before the stack comes down. Hesston Klenk told the group that the company will commit to developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Resolution and the Town to create a historic preservation plan. He will be working with the town and community on shaping recommendations. He noted that there is precedent for Rio Tinto doing this kind of thing, and described some examples (e.g. at Kennecott in Salt Lake City). There will probably not be a completed plan by September, but an approach should be developed. The Town Manager emphasized that an MOU should include a completion path and funding mechanism, to serve the needs of the community. Melissa Rabago mentioned that there must be a strong business case within the company for this, as well. To implement these kinds of social investments within Rio Tinto there is usually a scoping process, conceptual plans, a feasibility study, and then detailed plans and funding. Klenk said this

process will take some time. Resolution is committing to doing this, and there is “an expectation” within Rio Tinto that something like this will be done. He mentioned that the company’s Communities director is one of five people who sits on Rio Tinto’s investment committee. Sustainability will be an important element. A first step will be to identify funding for the initial scoping phase.

Members asked if there is a template that this group can work from, or whether they would need to start from scratch. Klenk said he is working on an outline.

Klenk told the group that there was a joint-venture meeting with BHP today, and this was a topic of discussion. That group would like to see ways to get a more robust picture of the entire community than that represented solely on the CWG. One forum for doing this was suggested as the Superior Community Development Committee, which meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month; this group includes youth and many other stakeholders as well as Resolution, and the public is always welcome. A CWG member suggested proactive approaches to talking with community groups and schools, etc., if Resolution wants input from the community on what they want to see happen before an MOU is developed.

The Town Manager said there are many variables involved here, but that it will be critical to develop an action plan and commitment from Rio Tinto before discussing specific alternatives for historic resources. He emphasized that an MOU might not include a specific plan or a specific funding amount, but simply delineate that Resolution has committed to a mitigation plan with an associated funding amount.

Godec observed that at the last meeting he heard Andrew Lye say that something is going to happen and Resolution needs the help of the CWG to figure out what that will be. He asked for clarification about whether the direction now is that the CWG should not proceed until there’s an MOU in place. Todd Pryor clarified that community conversations can continue, but doubts that a lot of new ideas will emerge because people in Superior have been talking about this for ten years. The Town will act as the fiduciary agent, so they need to have a solid agreement in place for any plan that is developed. He felt that to get a broader buy-in from the community there needs to be an approach and a commitment. He emphasized that in the past there have been instances of the Town putting its credibility on the line for projects that didn’t get built, and there were undesirable consequences. So, he believes it’s important to have something to stand behind. Klenk suggested that a first step for the CWG until an MOU is signed would be to develop a ‘mission statement’.

Godec showed the group a list of six questions the facilitators had prepared to spur thinking and discussion. He asked individual CWG members to provide their thoughts on this topic and a path forward. Their comments included the following:

- A member observed that he feels less and less enthusiasm in the CWG compared to when we started, and thought that perhaps this is because there is a less trust between the company and the community. He wonders if this legacy planning effort will make a difference for the town. He agrees with comments of other members that people think

that since Resolution got the land exchange they don't genuinely care about doing anything for the community anymore.

- A member asked if the decision has been made to build a museum. Melissa Rabago said she has been present in almost every meeting in which historic legacy was discussed, and although a museum came up frequently it is not the only idea nor is it a foregone conclusion.
- Another member said she would like to see a museum. A railroad is a great idea that would make Superior a destination and give it a future. For possible funding sources, she suggested talking with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Brownfields program and the State Historic Preservation Office.
- There was group discussion about the possibility and desirability of using the rail line to bring a tourist train to Superior. Possibly linked to this, a member mentioned plans to build a casino and hotel in Florence Junction.
- Several members expressed disappointment at the public turnout for the Resolution community meeting last week.
- Several members felt that the CWG should get ideas on what should be in a plan by having broader conversations with the community. A member suggested that the CWG should come up with a list of groups they should talk with, "and go do it". One idea is to visit with community elders at the senior center and ask them for their input.
- A representative from Globe observed that people outside of Superior may not even know what is being talked about or proposed here, as they do not have the historic context for these discussions. At least within the CWG, we should be clear in these discussions out of consideration for those who do not come from Superior.
- Part of the legacy could be an interactive center so people can see what's being done with robotics, etc.
- A member offered that he is excited because it feels like there is some foundation behind this now. There is apathy in the community; "that's just the DNA of this mining town". Once we get something going, there will be more interest.

CWG members asked Resolution how quickly an MOU can be in place. Klenk said they are targeting the end of next week, so it can go to the Town Council. It will not include a dollar amount or a spending cap at this time. If we can get a commitment to do a feasibility study from Rio Tinto, it will be a solid start and something to go forward with. He said that there is no set policy guidance within Rio Tinto for funding these types of efforts. Whatever is ultimately agreed upon will be submitted as a budget line item.

## Conclusions

The CWG believes that they have the community knowledge and experience to frame this issue. They suggested that guiding principles for this effort should be:

- To promote economic development
- Be self-sustaining
- Draw tourists
- Be educational

- Preserve history
- Benefit residents

Members felt that this is a direct one-for-one action: loss of the historic resource/asset requires an offset mitigation action.

Legacy opportunities include:

- A world-class mine
- World-class tourism opportunities
- The Boyce Thompson Arboretum

To make this a global destination, we need to have direct and easy access to the airport and urban area.

### **Action Items & Next Steps**

There is a verbal agreement from Resolution that something will be done. Within a short period of time there will be an MOU.

The CWG would like to start putting a framework together of what might be included in a plan. By the next meeting, both parties should be comfortable that they can work together. Next steps would be:

- Brainstorming within the CWG
- Go out to the community to add to these ideas
- Find someone to take all those ideas and do something with them – volunteer or paid

We will discuss the six questions at the next meeting. Debra Duerr will send them out electronically to CWG members. Those who would like to share them with their organizations are welcome to do so. If anyone wants to respond with thoughts via email before the meeting, please do so. Rabago assured the group that Resolution really wants to know what the community wants and thinks; they do not want to hand down a plan to the community.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Future Meeting Planning & Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for:

*Wednesday, **April 11**, 2018  
Superior Chamber of Commerce  
6:00pm*

Hesston Klenk offered to preview Resolution's mine subsidence video at the next meeting. The group will also continue its discussion of historic legacy.