

August 8, 2018
MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Attendees

Community Working Group members present:

Bruce Wittig – Queen Valley Fire Department
JoAnn Besich – Superior Optimist Club
Hank Gutierrez - Superior Copper Alliance
Pam Bennett – Queen Valley Community Liaison
Cecil Fendley – Queen Valley Water Board
Sylvia Werre – Top of the World
Jeff Bunkleemann – Central Arizona College
Pamela Rabago – Superior Chamber of Commerce

Community Working Group members not present:

Anthony Huerta – Town of Superior
Richard Matthews – Queen Valley Fire Department
Roy Chavez - Concerned Citizens and Retired Miners
Todd Pryor – Town of Superior
Karen Kitchayan Jones – San Carlos Apache Tribe
Fred Gaudet – Arizona Trail Association
George Martin – JF Ranch
Arlynn Godinez – Superior Unified School District Board / Maricopa County
Jim Schenck – Rebuild Superior
Tiffany Rowell – Superior community
Lynn Martin – JF, JI Ranch
Fernando Shipley – Cobre Valley Regional Medical Center Board
Rick Cartier – Superior Chamber of Commerce alternate

Resolution Copper Company:

Hesston Klenk – Communities Manager

Facilitators – Godec, Randall & Associates (GRA):

John Godec, Debra Duerr

Speakers:

none

Public Guests:

Fred Miramon

Introductions & Housekeeping

Hank Gutierrez reported that the Forest Service International Programs invited him, Fernando Shipley, and Karen Jones back to speak at this year's conference in October. The CWG agreed that this would be desirable and thanked them for volunteering.

Those who attended the Retired Miners and Concerned Citizens/University of Arizona public meeting reported on it, saying that the UofA speakers were very informative.

The group asked if anyone had news about George Martin's progress. Hesston relayed what he had learned from a conversation with Lynn.

Recreation User Group, Community Monitoring, Cultural Heritage Updates

The RUG finished their comprehensive trail plan at their meeting on July 17 and recommended it to Resolution. Resolution plans to work with the Forest Service during September to get this plan included in the overall mitigation program for the mine project. The RUG will meet again on October 17 at 10:00am to learn how these discussions went, and CWG members are invited to attend. John Godec noted that all the major user groups involved in the RUG signed an endorsement letter, so this was a successful collaborative effort.

Discuss New CWG Members

John Godec said that he will be trying to invite new members to join the CWG and has collected several suggestions from CWG members and others. He read a list of names who have been suggested. He reminded that group that the CWG operating policies state that members should represent organizations, and asked if it would be alright to start bringing in individuals who aren't organizational representatives. The group agreed that they would like to bring in additional people, particularly local folks. Several people suggested additional contacts including the United Superiorites and a new Youth Council. CWG members volunteered to research these.

Working Session on Cultural Heritage Project Concept Development

John Godec said that there may be additional public outreach to discuss the project and get ideas. Meetings are planned with the High School leadership group and at the Senior Center. He reminded the group that the ultimate objective is to suggest projects to the Committee established by the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Superior and Resolution Copper. The deadline for making these recommendations is the end of September, with feasibility-study projects defined in December.

As a basis for the discussion tonight, the facilitators have assembled all the public and CWG comments and suggestions offered to date. These have been organized into conceptual categories, or "buckets" for CWG review and evaluation. These are shown on a handout in the group's packets. We will work on reviewing, modifying, and refining these at the meeting tonight, with the objective of defining several "projects" that can be carried forward.

The group reviewed the categories of ideas and the individual components of them, then discussed these in smaller groups. The results produced three concepts along with some specific suggestions to be included in them. These are:

1. INNOVATION & CULTURAL CENTER

Location: Harding School and surrounding properties (about 4 acres)

Theme: Showcase Both History & Innovation

Meets Planning Criteria: Scalable, Self-sustaining, Mining History, Future of Mining, Mining - related Education, Mining-related Environmental Topics

Should include:

Virtual Magma Mine tour (old mining methods)
Virtual Resolution Copper Mine tour (new mining methods)
Virtual or 3D model of the former West Plant site (or walk-through replica)
A mining education center
Lecture and theater space
The Magma locomotive on display
Other Magma Mine equipment on display (e.g. coal cars)
Hands-on displays
Oral history archives
“Superior red brick”-themed display or activity
Remembrance wall, park, or other memorial to past miners

Related Needs:

Visitor parking
Connection to Downtown Superior, e.g. shuttle
Connection to area trails and recreational facilities

2. DEVELOP A TOURIST TRAIN

Note: *This concept can only work if Resolution Copper uses the existing Magma Rail Line for mine-related purposes that could be combined with tourist traffic. It is not economically possible to develop a stand-alone tourist train.*

Meets Planning Criteria: Self-sustaining, Mining History, Mining -related Education

Should include:

Rail line reactivated/rehabilitated
New locomotive and rail cars
Train depot and welcome center in Superior
Historic photo display
Old Magma locomotive on display

3. WEST PLANT SITE/SMELTER STACK RE-CREATION or COMMEMORATION

Location: at former stack site

Theme: Memorialize the Stack with a Symbolic Representation of It

May Meet Planning Criteria: Scalable, Self-sustaining, Mining History, Mining -related Education, Mining-related Environmental Topics

Options:

Cell phone tower (for “5G”) mimicking stack (income-generating)
Holographic “stack” (commemorative)
Light beam at stack site (commemorative)
Replica stack (re-creation)
Site viewing tower or platform
Display wall around site: historic site photos, local artwork, mining and environmental history

Other suggestions that were made by the community are listed below. However, these were considered to be projects that could be undertaken independently of the scope of this effort, as they would not be suitable for long-term future funding assistance from Resolution.

- Conduct oral history interviews with community residents, current and former
- Have a stack demolition party
- Create a Superior “brand”, similar to Wickenburg’s cowboy-town theme
- Develop a movie tour of filming locations around Superior
- Create a miniature golf attraction that would draw on mining/Superior history for its theme
- Install signage on buildings in Superior to inform visitors of their historic uses
- Rehabilitate Downtown
- Develop a brick-making industry again
- Create a musical history of the area
- Expand mining festivals and events

Community Survey for Cultural Heritage Project

Ways of distributing these ideas to the broader community for review and assessment were discussed. It was thought that Facebook might be a good avenue. The initial CWG approach was to ask people to indicate the concepts they preferred, but given that most of the features suggested in this process are included in the single concept of an Innovation and Cultural Center, this may not be a useful exercise. The facilitators will summarize these concepts for CWG determination of how they would like to distribute the information.

Public Comments

A visitor was asked to join the group’s conversation and his comments are included in the concepts developed.

Future Meeting Planning & Next Meeting

A tentative agenda was proposed to accommodate topics the CWG wishes to explore in the upcoming months. This includes:

Sept 12: Complete the Cultural Heritage Project recommendations, BHP presentation on soil sampling in Superior, University of Arizona presentation on drought issues

Oct 10: Tonto National Forest invited to discuss Alternatives Report for the Resolution Copper Environmental Impact Statement

Nov 14: Resolution Copper presentation on mine water use and related issues

Dec 12: Dark skies issues and plans for mine sites and facilities

The next meeting is scheduled for:

*Wednesday, **September 12**, 2018*

Superior Chamber of Commerce

6:00pm