

Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable Core Committee Meeting Notes

Date/Time: Wednesday, September 10, 2014 (9:30 am – Noon)
Location: Kwikwetlem First Nation Community Building, 2-65 Colony Farm Road
Co-Chairs: Craig Orr, Breanna Charleyboy

Attendees:

Sector	Organization	Core Committee Member
Local Government	City of Coquitlam (Council)	Chris Wilson
Local Government	City of Coquitlam (Alternate)	Margaret Birch
Local Government	City of Port Coquitlam (Staff)	Steve Brown
First Nation	Kwikwetlem First Nation (Technical Advisor)	Craig Orr
First Nation	Kwikwetlem First Nation	Breanna Charleyboy
Regional Government	Metro Vancouver, Water Management	Dave Dunkley
Federal Government	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	Maurice Coulter-Boisvert
Real Estate Development	Brook Pooni Associates, Urban Development Institute	Blaire Chisholm
Stewardship	North Fraser Salmon Assistance Program	Tony Matahlija
Stewardship	Tri-City Green Council	Elaine Willis
Stewardship	Port Coquitlam & District Hunting and Fishing Club	Norm Fletcher
Stewardship	Stewardship Alternate	Gordon Lewis
Arts and Culture	Arts Connect	Sherry Carroll
Roundtable Coordinator	Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable	Marni Turek

Regrets: Councillor Darrell Penner, City of Port Coquitlam; Verne Kucy, City of Coquitlam; Edie Thome, BC Hydro; Marvin Rosenau, BCIT; Ed Taje, BC Ministry of Energy and Mines; Garry Elgear, Riverside Fly & Tackle; George Turi, Jack Cewe Ltd.

9:30 Agenda Review

- Roundtable introductions.
- Craig presented the Roundtable with a copy of the book, “Blue Mind” written by Wallace J. Nichols. Please contact Marni if you would like to borrow it.
- Dave noted a book called “Chasing Water”.

9:35 Technical Projects and Research

Lower Coquitlam River Watershed Plan – Step 2 Action Planning

Task Group: Margaret Birch, Craig Orr, Gordon Lewis, Elaine Willis, Norm Fletcher, Maurice Coulter-Boisvert, Blaire Chisholm

- Watershed Plan Task Group Workshop is scheduled for October 1-2, 2014.
- Margaret provided a summary of the work to date and in preparation for the workshop, including an overview of the strategy categories and potential strategy

rating criteria. Strategies from both the community Roundtable meeting and the Watershed Task Group were compared. Discussion was held regarding why enforcement strategies were suggested by the Community Roundtable participants, however were not by the Watershed Task Group.

- There are hundreds of ideas to sift through. All strategies will remain part of the matrix. Margaret circulated the raw data for the recreation pressure as an example of the amount of data collected.
- Craig noted the Watershed Watch Salmon Society received a request to do a similar process in Chilliwack.

Level 1 Fish Habitat Assessment

Task Group: Dave Dunkley, Marvin Rosenau, Margaret Birch, Donna Underhill (Metro Vancouver), Robert Gunn (BCIT)

- Margaret provided an update on classroom training and field sessions held at BCIT on Sept. 8/9 for students, instructors and watershed volunteers, and noted plans for in-field data collection in Coquitlam River Sept. 15/17.
- Elaine suggested that the Roundtable make an interactive tool on the website – an e-Tool for watershed education. This will keep our website reinvigorated. By infusing our concept of watershed health going beyond just data into these students, it will make sure the science is made live.

Action: Marni Turek will post the training powerpoint on the website as a PDF, and the opportunity to customize it to the Coquitlam River will be investigated.

- The consultants followed same reach breaks as in the BC Hydro WUP template. All side channels will be noted. The consultants will review all data collected by BCIT. BCIT will invite consultants back to do more learning.
- A comprehensive report will be submitted in December, 2014.
- Gordon noted the importance of monitoring projects in the river over a number of years, and provided references to projects that were aimed at increasing habitat and yet productivity declined. Dave also noted the need to continually monitor projects, and not just complete them and walk away. Dave noted that we shouldn't forget other species habitat.
- Dave would like to have some signs put up for restoration works.
- Steve Brown left the meeting.

10:00 Share Your News

Riverview Lands Vision Process:

- Blaire noted two upcoming open houses on the Riverview lands visioning process. They are working with a core design group of artists, urban planners and architects.

Tuesday, September 23, 2014 – Douglas College

Douglas College, Coquitlam (Atrium)

1250 Pinetree Way, Coquitlam

4:30 – 8:00pm

Saturday, September 27, 2014 – Centennial Pavillion
Centennial PAVILLION,
620 Poirier Street, Coquitlam (Entrance off Winslow Avenue)
10:00am – 1:30pm

ArtsConnect: Riverview and You

- Sherry provided an update on Arts Connect and the display they will have at Treefest to feature an artist they have commissioned to do photo essays. They have approached other photographers and are compiling photos of what Riverview means to them.

River Springs Restoration (*add proper title of project*)

- Tony provided an update on his project near river springs. Gravel is being added to a channel that is 19 years old. Other groups are interested in this work and Tony is going to meet with them to talk about how he is acquiring funding. BC Hydro would like a sign to note this work. Tony has a budget for a sign and will talk to Margaret about this.

Action: Margaret Birch to follow up with Tony Matahlija regarding signage for this project.

Note: Follow-up after meeting resulting in the City of Coquitlam not approving a sign to be installed.

New Funding

- Tony noted that there is some kind of new funding where you can apply for up to \$20,000. Margaret will follow up with this.

ARTicipation Murals

- Gordon shared the completed ARTicipation mural from the Roundtable in May.

Fish Kill

- Gordon informed the Core Committee of a fish kill on July 20. Discussion was held regarding the process for reporting a fish kill. Blaire asked if we could add an emergency response number to the Roundtable business cards. Maurice inquired as to whether the problem is persistent and if the water coming out of the location occurred on a regular basis – if so, PEP or the City of Coquitlam will enter it as a part of the database.

Action: Margaret Birch will follow up with Gordon Lewis and call centre staff.

- As a reminder to all members when a spill to the environment is observed to call the City of Coquitlam to report immediately 604-927-3500 (24hr/day).

#MyWatershedMoment

- Craig provided an update on My Watershed Moment. Planning is underway and it sounds like it will be a very popular event. SFU is a very dynamic partner. They are actively pursuing media coverage.

GreenDrinks

- Elaine noted that GreenDrinks meets the third Thursday of each month in Port Moody. They are looking for a December speaker. Please contact Elaine if you know of someone.

Fish Fest

- Elaine noted Fish Fest will be held September 27, 2014 at Rocky Point Park.
- This is an event for the Tri Cities.

Council Delegation

- Chris provided an update on the delegation to the City of Coquitlam Council-in-Committee meeting in July. Craig did a great job. It was a packed schedule, so Council didn't really get a chance to discuss it. Chris will bring it up at future meeting. Chris is trying to get more councillors to come out to My Watershed Moment.

Action: Marni Turek will email PDF of presentation to the Core Committee.

10:30 BREAK

Capacity Building Exercise:

- The Roundtable has invested significant social and financial capital into the watershed plan – to have it implemented successfully we need to think about long term planning for the success of the watershed plan and the Roundtable.
- Core Committee members were asked to identify one strength and one weakness, and one opportunity and one threat.

Action: Marni Turek will collate information for further discussion at a later date.

10:45 Roundtable Capacity Building

Soundbites

- The Core Committee will be asked to provide “Soundbites” to build our stories for communications materials and funding applications. Unfortunately the information collected by Gillian Fielding during her Masters research is protected by privacy laws and cannot be used.

Action: Marni Turek will send an email to the Core Committee requesting “soundbites” in response to the questions around why Core Committee members are involved with the Roundtable.

11:00 Fundraising and Budget Update

Update on Funding Standing Committee

Standing Committee: Margaret Birch (lead), Maurice Coulter-Boisvert, Gordon Lewis, Monte Anions

- Margaret provided an update on the budget and the new opportunities for funding

being actively pursued. Reports will be due over the next few months. There is enough funding to complete core tasks like the watershed plan. There is a need to find funds to support the day-to-day Roundtable activities and the website.

- Discussion was held regarding finding private donors. Norm noted to think about significant funders – identify what have and what can we do to provide them with significant visible recognition and attach them to a significant cause.

11:05 Upcoming Events, Communications and Outreach

Upcoming Events

- Treefest: Saturday, Sept. 13, 2014, 11:00 am - 4:00 pm, Riverview Hospital Grounds, 2601 Lougheed Highway, Coquitlam
- My Watershed Moment – Sunday, Sept. 28, 2014, 10:00am – 12:00pm Colony Farms
- Rivers Day – Sunday, Sept. 28, 2014, 10:00am – 2:00pm, Lions Park, Port Coquitlam
- Salmon Come Home – Sunday, October 19, 2014, 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Hoy Creek Hatchery

Communications and Outreach

- Marni provided an overview of the community connections and partnerships being developed: Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce; S.U.C.C.E.S.S.; My Neighbourhood, My Future Tri-Cities; and Northwest Burke Vision.
- Marni distributed “Roundtable Business Cards” for the Core Committee to use.
- The Fall Backgrounder will be available on the website shortly.

Action: Marni Turek will send an electronic copy of the fall backgrounder to the Core Committee.

11:20 Roundtable/ Watershed Café Planning

- Discussion was held regarding a fall Community Roundtable. Considering budget and capacity, Marni recommended a fall communication strategy to draw attention to the Roundtable in Feb/March with a focus on the watershed plan.
- Sherry, Blaire and Craig volunteered to form a planning committee.
- Idea to piggyback on another event – i.e. Minnekada Philosophers Cafe.

Action: Contact Metro Vancouver.

- Craig noted Watershed Watch may be able to help support a watershed cafe.

11:30 Next Core Committee Meeting

Action: Marni Turek will poll the Core Committee for the next meeting date, location and co-chairs.

- Dave Dunkley suggested a future meeting be held at the Coquitlam Water Treatment Plant and hold a watershed tour – perhaps in the Spring.