

Amsterdam/Churchill Community Planning Group
June 23, 2008

Attendees: Gail Weidenaar, Carol Weidenaar, Charlie Pipal, Jim Potts, Warren Vaughan, Walt Sales, LeRoy Logterman, Reese Miller, Jack VanderMolen, Rita VanderMolen, Clint Litle, Bob Urich, Donna Eakman, Tim VanDam, Dean Sybesma, Brent Sinnema, Dwight Dyk, Ken Kreitzer, Brian Weidenaar, Carl VanderMolen, Mark Kimm, Jason Kimm, Erika Braaksma

Meeting Introduction:

- 1) Walt called the meeting to order at 7:10pm
- 2) Everyone introduced themselves; there were no rumors.
- 3) The ACCPG meeting minutes from June 9, 2008 were approved as read. Tim moved and Bob seconded their approval. Motion passed. (all 5's)

Business:

- 4) Treasurer's Report: There was no new activity regarding the Treasurer's report. Gail still has the \$40 money order. It is waiting to be mailed until the committee chooses a name for the non-profit group, as well as what type of non-profit group should be formed.
- 5) Steering Committee Reports:
 - A) Water Assessment Committee: Jim Potts, Ada Montague, and Warren Vaughan had a conference call with the DEQ. Jim reported on the discussion.

The possibility of combining the community's water into one system was seriously discussed. This could be a long term solution to the water quality of the area, but plumbing, access, and easements would be a "nightmare." Jim shared he is excited that the community is forward thinking, but thought it might be hard to convince people to combine the water system if there is no economic gain.

Carolyn, the representative at the DEQ, will collect IOC and other water quality data and forward it to Warren.
 - B) Sidewalk/Community Projects Committee: Reese Miller reported on his discussion with Rob Buckvich of the MDT, who seemed to be receptive to the idea of sidewalks in Churchill along Churchill road. Reese reported that unlike Churchill Road, Camp Creek and Amsterdam Road are not state roads, thus there is not as much funding available for sidewalk projects.

Reese commented that the committee doesn't have to wait for funding to get started. Once an aerial map is acquired, it would show what existing structures are on the state's easement. It was implied that the state would try to work around existing structures such as trees, etc. Other items such as water

runoff, parking lanes, curbing, and gutters etc. will likely need an engineering study, which will be expensive. Reese suggested the next step would be to talk to property owners about the placement of the sidewalks.

Warren offered to talk about the specifics with Reese, Clint Litle, and Charlie Pipal. Clint Litle is a local engineer who has done a lot of work with Jim Potts, and Charlie Pipal is a member of the Manhattan Rotary, which may be able to help provide fund for the project.

C) **Non Profit Committee:** Gail passed around two different forms for the group to decide upon regarding which type of non-profit group should be formed. Once that is decided, officers can be elected and the application can be filed. It can take six months to be approved. Warren said he will see what type of non-profit group Gallatin Gateway formed and report back to the group. Walt gave Gail a copy of the Sonorian grant that Gateway utilized.

D) **Newsletter/Webpage Committee:** Tim VanDam handed out a copy of Gallatin Gateway's community planning webpage to give the group some ideas. He suggested that everyone go to the website and look for ideas to use for the proposed Amsterdam/Churchill community planning webpage. It was reported that Jill Ayers, who helped set up the county webpage, would be willing to help Reese with the Amsterdam/Churchill webpage. There will be a construction fee for the webpage, but thanks to Reese there will be no maintenance fee.

- 6) There was a Large Landowner Meeting held on Saturday the 21st of June. There was only one newcomer. Some suggestions included that the rural boundary be extended farther to the west, and that it was agreed that local control is best.
- 7) Clint Litle from HKM Engineering was present at the meeting, He was asked to come and share his knowledge regarding the process for creating new subdivisions. He read through the rough draft of the community plan and suggested that the group focus on zoning areas and basic land uses before getting into details such as gutters. He said that developers like zoning because it provides a level of predictability.

Water disposal and fresh water systems also need to be addressed and approved before a subdivision can ultimately be approved. He added that transportation planning is also another critical aspect for approval, which can take years.

- 8) Next, everyone went on a field trip to see the proposed core boundary. Comments regarding the field trip will be shared at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjournment:

- 9) The next ACCPG meeting will be held on July 14th at the Amsterdam/Churchill fire hall from 7-9pm.
- 10) The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm. Dwight moved and Erika seconded. Motion passed (all 5's).