

Minutes: PAWG Socioeconomic Task Group

Jan. 25, 2005 Pinedale Library Lovatt Room

TG Members Present: Carmel Kail, Roy Allen, Ward Wise, Bob Jones, Jay Anderson, Ron Hogan, Jana Weber, Tom Burns, Marilyn Filkins

TG Members Not Present: Betty Wilkinson, Eric Sechrist, Judi Adler, Robert Forbis, Cyd Goodrich, Mary Byrnes, Steve Reynolds

Visitors: Barbara Sowada, Nyla Kunard most of day, Sue Kramer in the afternoon

Minutes taken by: Jana Weber

Carmel indicated that the purpose of today's meeting was to discuss the eleven areas previously identified for monitoring, report on where we are, and begin forming recommendations for the PAWG.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

Roy Allen handed out the spreadsheet information collected to date. He discussed the fact that a group such as this needs to justify itself with data. He went through his spreadsheets discussing how it works and how the data can be helpful. A discussion of specific data items ensued. Some of the statistics and methods of data collection were questioned, and it was suggested that there is a problem with data accuracy. Roy indicated that it was important to make the data as accurate as possible to give validity to our recommendations.

Carmel handed out the 'required TG report elements' identified by the PAWG co-chairs, and asked that the group summarize the required information for each of the 11 areas/issues previously identified by the TG for monitoring. The topics were divided up and summaries were written and oral reports given on the topics listed below. Comments and additions were made by the group during the oral reports. It was understood that individuals giving the reports would put this into a more organized format and email the reports to Carmel no later than Friday, January 28, 2005. These topical reports will serve as the basis for narrative sections in the February TG report.

Business diversification—Carmel Kail

Demographics—Roy Allen

Housing— Bob Jones & Ward Wise

Emergency Services—Jay Anderson.

Health Care (clinics)—Jay Anderson.

Public Services (water, sewer, roads, utilities) — Ward Wise & Ron Hogan

Crime and drugs --Marilyn Filkins

Education—Tom Burns

Social Services (SAFV, DFS, Mental Health) —Jana Weber.

Quality of Life—Jana Weber.

(Public Safety was previously identified as an area for monitoring, consisting of crime and traffic components.

Because the PAWG Transportation TG is reportedly addressing traffic issues and crime was subsequently lumped with drugs, the SocioEcon TG decided to address only the 10 above-listed issues at this time.)

Individual group members then wrote down on large pieces of paper the recommendations and/or mitigations suggested during the topical reports. The group reviewed each recommendation, discussed, made wording adjustments, and agreed by consensus which recommendations to bring forward (the great majority). Carmel will type the recommendations and email to TG for further review / wordsmithing.

Ron Hogan reported on his recent discussions with PAPA employers concerning our draft questionnaire. On many questionnaire elements, employers indicated to Ron that the information was unknown, difficult to collect, or possibly legally barred from disclosure. Ron suggested that, alternatively, the TG may wish to administer a differently-formatted questionnaire to individual employees who volunteer to complete them. This could be done by having a TG member attend company safety meetings, explain our mission, and ask employees to complete the questionnaire. As it was late in the day, Roy and Ron agreed to analyze what elements of the questionnaire were not problematic and report back to the TG via email.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50.