

Dewey-Humboldt Community Environmental Board Meeting

March 13, 2019 at the Dewey-Humboldt Town Library Meeting Room - Start time at 12:40 PM

In-person Attendees: Sue Shimer (Dewey-Humboldt Resident), Margaret Dewey (Project Harvest), Terry Nolan (Mayor Dewey-Humboldt), Garry Rogers (Dewey-Humboldt Resident), Sue Tone (Daily Courier Reporter), Marc Galeano (real estate representative), Tom Morgrette (Real Estate Agent), Michelle Morgrette (Real Estate Agent), Geraen Hoyer (D-H Historical Society and Resident), Kathy Hoyer (D-H Historical Society and Resident), Jay Vaughan (Resident), and Denise Moreno Ramírez (UA Superfund Research Program).

Attending by phone: Yolanda Sánchez (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Community Involvement)

Agenda Item: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Updates – Yolanda Sánchez and Jeff Dhont

- Update regarding the cancelled Community Workshop. Yolanda Sánchez stated that the Town Council was waiting for the appointment of a new Town Manager before they were to reschedule the Community Workshop.
- Mayor Nolan stated that it was not important to appoint a Town Manager for the rescheduling of the meeting.
- Yolanda Sanchez stated that they would resume the identification of a date and time with the Town of Dewey-Humboldt. Maybe late April or early May.
- Yolanda provided clarification regarding the goal of the workshop and how US EPA is involved. Basically, the goal of the workshop is to discuss how the community might envision the reuse of the former Humboldt Smelter property after the Superfund cleanup. The US EPA does not identify or pay for the future land use of properties after a cleanup. However, the US EPA needs to know what future land use the community might like to see so we can appropriately compare how the cleanup options would be compatible with those reuses when developing the feasibility study.

Agenda Item: Project Harvest – Margret Dewey

- Over 1,000 samples at four sites have been completed in the life of the project.
- They have provided results back to individuals that participated in the project by providing water, soil, and plant material to be analyzed.
- Mayor Nolan wanted to know the results from Dewey-Humboldt area. He would like to know the local findings.
- Margaret Dewey stated that at the end of the study more general result would go out to the public without any identifiers (e.g., names, addresses). She would discuss with Dr. Ramírez-Andreotta and get back to him with more details.
- Marc Galeano brought up the question on what happens if a sample is received and tested that is above the legal limits for the contaminants that they are testing.

- Margaret Dewey stated that no one from the area had submitted a sample above the legal limits that were considered alarming. She would also talk to Dr. Ramírez-Andreotta and get back with any specific that she might have missed.
- It was brought up once again by Mayor Nolan UA SRP developing a follow-up children's study. He would like to find out how the contamination is affecting the community children now.

Agenda Item: Voices Unheard: Arizona's Environmental History Project – Denise Moreno Ramirez

- Provided photographs and short descriptions of the oral history interviews for the project.
- Interviewees included: Brian Beck, Mack Rowe, Rose Eitemiller, Len Marinaccio, Ashley Preston, Antonio Olvera, Charlie Reyes Sr., Earl Goodwin, Warren Kuhles, Dale Bennett, and Harold Chemas.
- Denise Moreno Ramirez discussed that corrective history needs to occur regarding the Iron King Mine and the majority of the Mexican underground mine workers that allowed for the success of this mine. She was able to interview Antonio Olvera and Charlie Reyes Sr. to provide historical evidence (as well as Mack Rowe providing additional information).
- Denise Moreno Ramirez also mentioned that there is a long tradition of Mexican-American culture in the area from Prescott until the Dewey-Humboldt / Mayer that is not readily part of the "pioneering history" of the area.

Agenda Item: CEB Business

- It was brought up once again the idea of organizing a technical tour of the Superfund sites (mine and smelter) and suggested by Sue Shimer (Sandy Geiger had previously mentioned that such a tour was organized in the past via the Sierra Club). This would help community members have an experiential look at the sites as well as the locations of the areas of concern / impact.
- Yolanda stated that this might be a good idea and she would have to discuss with Jeff Dhont and get back to the group.
- Interested in hearing from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality.

NEXT MEETING June 13, 2019