

# Dewey-Humboldt Community Environmental Board Meeting

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**March 14, 2018 at the Dewey-Humboldt Town Library Meeting Room - Start time at 12:30 PM**

Attendees: Sue Shimer (Dewey-Humboldt Resident), Sandy Geiger (Humboldt Resident), Cecil F. Newell (Yavapai County), Margaret Dewey (Project Harvest), and Jeff Schalau (UA Extension). Attending by phone: Dr. Mónica Ramírez-Andreotta (UA Superfund Research Program), Denise Moreno Ramírez (UA Superfund Research Program), and Yolanda Sanchez (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Community Involvement)

CAB members/friends not present: Terry Nolan, Leslie Horton, Kim Nathe, Christina Books, Ashley Preston, Gary Lowrie, Doria Lake, Lon Ullmann, Eddie Hill, Ted Brooks, Amy Timmons, Doris Cellarius, Heather Parker, Rose Eitemiller, Julie Brown, Gary Beverly, Steve Beirl, Garry Rogers, Bart Brush, Doug Treadway and Jordan Faehn, Brian Beck (Brian Beck Consulting, LLC.), Len Marinacchio (Dewey-Humboldt Resident), Jim McCaugland (Dewey-Humboldt Resident).

*Agenda Item: Dewey-Humboldt Community Environmental Board Business. How are we doing? Goals for 2018, and Leadership:*

- Jeff S.: has not been attending the meeting as frequently, but there has been a lot of visibility of the local Superfund site. There is still a lot of interest in the water quality aspect of it since he is still very much involved in the well water testing as well as outreach.
- Margaret D.: Agreed with the local interest in the well water testing / quality information. She stated that the workshop filled to capacity this time around.
- Sandy G.: Commented on the recent D-H Newsletter article-updating people about Margaret D. and Project Harvest. She also talked about the recent Courier article on the US Environmental Protection Agency's work in the area (she felt was very informative). Both Dewey-Humboldt Town representatives and the US Environmental Protection Agency were discussing the Mayor's idea to redevelop a small portion of the smelter property as a State Park. She also mentioned the increased attention to the Agua Fria due to a conservation easement being proposed.
- Sandy G.: Suggested presentations from Grey Wolf Landfill (they are in charge of waste management), Jeff Schalau (update on well water testing in the area), Brian Beck (history or recent work he has been involved in regarding the Superfund site), Len Marinacchio (update on Sustainability Alliance).

- Denise MR.: Asked about including the Dewey-Humboldt Historical Society and possible presentation. Sandy G. stated that they were having a meeting that evening and she would discuss with them.
- Sue S. brought up the possibility of a presentation from the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality Superfund Division. Yolanda responded that the US Environmental Protection Agency has a good working relationship with them as well as the new project manager. She also stated that they recently presented at the February 14<sup>th</sup> Dewey-Humboldt Town meeting as well as the Mayors Meeting. Yolanda could help connect the group.
- Question to US EPA: Sandy G. wanted to find out if US EPA was sampling runoff in areas where clean up has occurred after monsoon rain events.
- Cecil N.: Brought up the importance of incorporating emergency management topics such as flood or fire control. This is especially good for new people that are learning about the area. Maybe “Ready, Set, Go” education from Fire Department.
- Yolanda S. stated that once that the feasibility study was complete they would present at the Town Council, but they could also present at the Community Environmental Board (if invited).
- Denise MR.: Brought up the idea of invitations to local watershed groups. Upper Verde River, Agua Fria Watershed Partnership, Citizens Water Advocacy Group (Gary Beverly) was some that were suggested by the board. In addition, other groups such as the Sierra Club, Audubon Society, Center for Biological Diversity (Joe Trudeau – suggested by Jeff S. and Sandy mentioned that they usually focus on conservation on public lands), Central Arizona Land Trust (conservation easement work in the Agua Fria), and ? Water Advisory Group were also mentioned.
- A good activity for the Board to focus on is the Agua Fria Festival (mentioned by Sandy G.). An activity could be developed such as the NRCD soil rainfall simulation activity, maybe could use (Jeff S. suggested).
- Should consider the Arbor Day celebration as well as Pioneer Days.
- We need to do outreach to new Town Manager Tom Wilson since the group thinks that the Town of Dewey-Humboldt should be represented at meetings.
- Discussion was brought up about local tours. It was stated that the Town Council had participated in the recent smelter tour. Walking tours and “toxic tours” were mentioned as potential activities.
- Outreach and education was discussed as a potential goal for 2018. Maybe adding to Town website or Town reception area. For example, it was mentioned the map of the Superfund site should be available and names of local leaders and outside investigators as resources.
- Outreach to realtors in the area was another potential activity mentioned.
- When leadership was brought up, the group sentiment was that there is not enough of a critical mass to begin working in this area. A lot of energy can be placed into this and nothing will progress due to the low amount of interest and attendees. It is a great goal to have but now is not the time. It seems that the community is not engaged enough on these issues.
- Margaret suggested that we change the word “Board” to “Group”.

- Monica RA.: Stated that this conversation was important since the Board needed to be in the hands of the community. It was also discussed that the Iron King Mine and Humboldt Smelter Superfund Site did not have a Community Advisory Group.
- Result: Yolanda S. would present next time about a Community Advisory Group and Superfund sites as well as support mechanisms that are available via the US Environmental Protection Agency.

Agenda Item: *Voices Unheard: Arizona's Environmental History Project*

- Denise MR. stated that she had not been working on the project since she had been concentrating on her Comprehensive Exams (she passed). Now she will take up the project again.
- She stated that she had completed an interviewee list for the oral history and semi-structured interviews that she sent to John Young from the Dewey-Humboldt Historical Society. She would check in with him to find out how everything was going with the review of the list.

Agenda Item: *Project Harvest*

- Monica RA. Introduced Margaret D. as the new local Project Harvest Community Health Representative.
- Received samples! Monica RA. stated she was happy with performance. Approximately 160 participants were recruited.

*NEXT MEETING JUNE 13, 2018*