



**Morice Community Working Group
 DRAFT Minutes**

Date: January 14, 2004

Location: Houston Senior’s Centre

Attendance (√) Regrets (X) Guests (G) Alternate (A):

√	Ian Sharpe	√	Harold Ludditt
X	Emily Bulmer	√	John Emberley
√	Laurie Gallant		
X	Christine Rigby		
√	Leroy Reitsma		
X	Ben Weinstein		Guests
X	Harry Anaka		Jack Mussaleum
√	Dave Jellett		Ken Thomson
√	Garth Ehalt		
√	Bill Bristow		
√	Carlie Kearns		

Jargon and Acronyms:

MSMA: arsenic-based pesticide, monosodium methane arsenate (MSMA)

MWLAP: Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection

EMA: Environmental Management Act

Documents distributed or Presentations at meeting:

Start Time: 6:55 pm

- e-mail from Dave Stevens to Carlie re: formaldehyde as an emissions component in beehive burners; Harold explained that there was a temporary shipment of sander dust containing formaldehyde but this has ended now; L. Gallant also mentioned followup needed with Paul Schwarz and Bob Murray to determine how much if any MSMA might be found as an emission component.

Introductions, Announcements and Housekeeping

- For the benefit of our guests, Ian commented that previous plans were put together by experts and have been ineffective. This new process is consensus-driven and community based.
- Dave Jellett not getting attachments.
- Jim Hofweber presenting on new Environmental Management Act (EMA) at the Jan.26 RWG meeting – everyone is invited to attend.
- Ian Sharpe noted that the protocol of writing letters was breached at the November meeting. An apology was made by both Ian and Laurie and accepted by the District of Houston representatives. The importance of having communications from the group going through the consensus process was noted; membership in this group is contingent on protocols being respected. Everything needs to be done in the spirit of cooperation, professionalism and credibility need to be upheld. It was also

mentioned that with more letters to be written and the upcoming release of the Plan, this lesson is timely and we all appreciate the opportunity to start fresh.

WISDOM CIRCLE

Ken Thomson – Houston Fire Department on benefits of fire training practices

Training exercises have been done in-house in the past; these are easier to coordinate and plan for. This past year, professional trainers were brought in, which involves much more planning in terms of timing and budgeting (\$6000). Extensive advertising was done to find a structure to burn for the training exercise. A response came in September, at which point the trainer could be booked. Houston and Burns Lake fire departments participated as well as support staff. The majority of “smoke” was from wooden pallets or was pure steam. The exercise started at 2:30 pm and ended at 6:00pm. Summertime is definitely the preferred time for training, and the fire department would like to do another training exercise in 2004. The fire department will work within good venting windows if at all possible. The MWLAP office will help fire departments coordinate future training exercises. A 2.5 day training exercise is equivalent to 14 house fires. Community relations efforts were made but could be improved on by going door to door; did advertising, and presence of fire department crews 2.5 weeks leading up to exercise should have been good clue to residents. It was noted that the timing of the training exercise was one of the worst possible for weather conditions and venting, and that contact was made with the WLAP office the day of the fire.

Ken Thomson and Jack Mussaleum left at 8:15 after providing valuable input on Plan delivery and implementation, including specific ways the District can support our work on the woodstove changeout program and public education.

Decision Points, Sticky Points and Other Important Notes:

The Plan at the Regional Level

Brainstorm on the Woodstove Changeout Program – A street by street approach; the trailer court would be a good target. We need to be careful of insurance company angle – (note that there is a difference in rates when fire protection service is provided in rural areas). The District may be able to help with door-to-door education through firefighters. The idea of distributing tasks to make the woodstove changeout program happen was discussed – a workplan needs to be created so folks can make a realistic commitment. What funding sources could be used if foundations don’t work? Service Groups, Katimivik and high schools – pledge drive – how much would you commit for every woodstove that gets changed out? Tradeshow exposure very helpful - it is worth putting a booth together. Canfor could donate fuel for your new woodstove if you can show receipt. Need 20-25% rebate including wood deal, 15% is not enough. Donation with charitable tax receipt would be a good incentive. Need to know scope of project – send CWG members feasibility study.

Working the Plan at the Community Level

Education – put on Burn It Smart workshop again; very well received and attended in September. Fire Departments in the schools – more about fire prevention, not really compatible with air quality message. Newspaper Articles – no feedback, but Carlie will reread articles and offer comments; seems that articles must be well written if they are all being printed without any editing.

Review of Draft Plan and Delivery Strategy

- Writing team by emission source agreed on: Leroy to lead Beehive Burner issue and will consult with other mills, Paul Schwarz and Dave Duncan are tackling Open Burning, Carlie and Harold will work on

- Backyard Burning, Pam is leading woodstove chapter. WLAP and Footprint staff are providing technical and general information. Noted that newspaper articles and minutes of issue specific meetings are excellent references. Drafts needed by mid-February, to be presented at RWG meeting and then to public.
- Delivery strategy recommendations: Open house with static display (March) corresponding with CWG meetings – can up attendance by announcing during delegation at Council – Houston Council meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday.
 - Presentation team: WLAP, CWG member, Facilitator
 - Could send out story in Spring newsletter of District of Houston (out mid-April)
 - Implementation of Plan: Existing working groups and new recruits would participate in issue specific meetings based on seasons of emissions. Less frequent meetings where we do a work blitz of 2-3 weeks is an agreeable format.

Air Quality Science Update

Ben has been doing a lot of work concerning woodstoves and residential heating emissions. By combining last summer's residential heating survey with EPA emission factors and census data he has come up with interesting results showing just how much wood smoke is emitted in urban and rural areas. After some basic modelling data is created Ben will pick up where he left off with the forest harvesting/resource burning component of his work and plug away at that.

Christine has now let a contract with Levelton Engineering to complete CALMET input files for the remainder of 2002 (it was not all available at the time of the last contract). We will now have all of 2001 and 2002 ready. Levelton is also making some improvements to the modelling that was done last fiscal for this project. Christine is also in the process of letting a contract to develop CALPUFF input files using data from Ben's work as well as from the provincial emission inventory. Christine has also been made the provincial "guinea pig" for a new software application (part of the CALPUFF suite) that will be needed later on for post-modelling analysis-called CALPUFF VIEW. She will be reporting to the province on its advantages and disadvantages once this project is completed.

Minutes from October and November could not be adopted. Those present at meetings to read over and send revisions or approval to Footprint office.

Today's Meeting Adjourned at: 8:45 pm

Next meeting date (second Wednesday of each month): February 11 , 2004 (note that Feb.18 was discussed at meeting but this was a scheduling error).

Next meeting location: Houston Seniors' Centre

**Agenda Items for next meeting:
Plan drafts, Delivery, Implementation,**

Chair for next meeting: Lg Scribe for next meeting: Lg

	AGREEMENTS/ACTION ITEMS	Who	Deadline	Status
1	Follow up with neighbours who complained about the smoke from the practice fire.	Footprint Team	December 1	
2	In future, direct complaints to fire departments instead of writing letter.	All	Ongoing	
3	Respect communications protocol.	All	ongoing	
4	Note in Plan that Houston fire department willing to help organize and promote another Burn It Smart workshop for Houston.			
5	Writing team from Morice CWG; draft by Feb 15; sent out draft Plan outline by e-mail with article.			
6	Organize RWG meeting in Feb to vet Plan and also send member of writing team to each CWG mtg. (thinking of March 1)	Footprint	Jan. 26	
7	Send okay by e-mail for adopting minutes.	Those in attendance	Feb.11	
8	Each CWG member to have lay person read Plan.	All	March 1	
9	Book presentation with Houston Council (likely March 16 or April 6)	Footprint	Jan 30	
10				
11				