

VISITOR READINESS TASK FORCE MEETING MINUTES

August 4, 2008, 10am, City Hall

Attendees: Bill McDonald (City of DuPont), Mike Davis (Edward Jones/DBA), Ron Hagen (The Home Course), Pat Malone (City of DuPont), Amy Walker (City of DuPont), Cara Mitchell (HomeTown Clipper), Deborah Kerner (Liberty Inn), Kathleen Trotter (Council Member)

1. Meeting was co-chaired by Pat Malone and Bill McDonald.

2. Updates:

a. Cultural and Heritage Committee.

Pat Malone and Bill McDonald. The first Trail walk #1 is happening at the same time as this meeting. Trail Map #1 (Historic Town) will hopefully be available within 45-60 days. Then Trail Map #2 (Hudson Bay Company) followed by Trail Map #3 (Native American) with the goal of having all three trail maps completed by January 1st. Bill advised Helix Design volunteered to help with design and signs for City Hall and trailhead at north end of City Hall. The Nisqually Tribe wants to collaborate/partner on museum/interpretative center.

b. Business Relations.

Mike Davis. Each business in town has been presented the Visitor Readiness Report. Mike plans on putting his "hat out" and discussing with the businesses in town that business involvement is necessary to make this plan work. Ron Hagen, The Home Course, advised that during the 2010 US Amateur golf there will be 350 players, ages 18-35. Discussion followed on companion events for the four day event for the families of the players. Some of the items suggested were a golf swap, treasure map with prizes, and Nisqually Tribe Storytelling. The event will occur in August, 2010 from Saturday-Tuesday for DuPont. Amy Walker wants to do a preview of each companion event in 2009.

c. Marketing & Promotion.

Cara Mitchell. Cara has been working on the tourism website and DuPont Brochure. Pat Malone passed out information on State competitive grants for towns to boost tourism. The first item listed is "website enhancement". Cara and Pat Malone will be putting together a grant by the deadline of August 29th for a website for tourism. There are several other categories listed for the competitive grant and anyone interested should contact Pat Malone for more information.

d. Nisqually Tribe.

Bill McDonald. Cynthia Iyall, Tribal Chair, has received a letter inviting the Tribe to participate in the VRTF. The Nisqually Tribe wants to partner with the City of DuPont on the museum and/or interpretative center. Bill McDonald advised the City will host the Tribe at a dinner in September.

e. Logo.

Bill McDonald will address the City Council at their next meeting on the Logo issues.

3. Workplan for Pat Malone, Visitor Readiness Coordinator (VRC), was discussed. The emphasis for the Visitor Readiness Coordinator should be in working with Mike Davis and the DBA for their involvement with tourism. The VRC should attend subcommittee meetings as

well as the leadership committee meeting. VRC will continue working with each committee chair and work with Cara Mitchell, Marketing & Promotion, on the website grant due August 29th.

4. Other Business: Deborah Kerner advised the Tacoma Regional Convention Visitors Bureau will be having a breakfast on August 21st to launch their new look and business plan. She will send the information to attendees.

Next Meeting, Monday, September 8, 2008, 10am at City Hall.