

China Lake Access Feasibility Committee
June 26, 2013

In attendance: Dan L'Heureux, Janet Preston, Sheri Wilkens, Jenny Clair, Dale Worster, Beth Preston, and guest Eliza Denoeux, who has worked in marketing and development in the area, for Colby College, Kents Hill, Mt. Merici School, Waterville Opera House, Central Maine Kennel Club, among others.

Discussion: Wachusett has accepted the P&S Agreement with our offer of \$575K! There is much excitement about the agreement going through. This amount is now public knowledge.

Now what?

Will older people be convinced? Lodge would be open to Bingo and Shuffleboard or whatever.

We have to make a huge fundraising push within the first year.

Should we ask Bar Harbor Bank to pre-approve a loan? We would want a long-term loan. Dan suggested that the town might be better off paying outright for the land, since we have it, and ask the bank for a credit line.

- Eliza explained her background and commented that our project is both inclusive and exclusive. She feels this is an important strength. Exclusive because it will be open only to China residents, and inclusive because it includes the entire community.
- We need to identify who is willing and able. More people live off the lake than on the lake.
- Why are they willing and able? Identify the reasons.
- How many children under 18, and how many grandparents do we have?
- Businesses? We have it all – we will be positively impacted short term, long term?
- Tradition of being on a particular lake is strong.
- Planned giving, picnic benches, boardwalk. plaque in lodge.

Costs of hiring Eliza would include time, software, paper and other supplies. She would be willing to work part-time for an hourly wage of \$85.00/hour. Her strength is in approaching individuals for donations, as opposed to writing grant proposals.

Dan explained that we have received the Land for Maine's Future grant and that the previous votes demonstrate the community support. Having a public lake-front property gives everyone a stake in the lake and its water quality. Lake-front property owners will also benefit from other events that will be offered to the community.

Community Days is the first weekend of August. We would like to have someone at a table on the 3rd.

TO DO LIST:

- Janet - letters of endorsement from CLA, CRLA, and KWD
- Dan – letter to taxpayers from the Town Office, warrant, ballot article, laminate map
- Beth – Facebook, Twitter, and website. She will also set up a Paypal account for donations
- Presentation to CLA members on August 17th
- Write down ideas for overcoming objections, who the most vocal objectors will be, and what our “spiel” will be when meeting with abutters

- Sheri and Janet will alternately write weekly articles for the TownLine
- Tradition, the dream, quality of place, intergenerational, handicapped accessibility
- Sheri and Jenny will attend Selectboard meeting on Monday, July 29th.
- Ask the boyscouts to include the cabins in their Eagle Scout projects.
- Dale – first, second, and third year minimal budgeted expenses.

After Eliza left, we voted to hire to help us at her requested rate of \$85/hour.

Next meeting is Friday, July 26, at 3:00 at the Town Office.