Minutes of GREN Executive Meeting

Jan 4, 2011

Present: John J, Theo N, Greg M, Susan B, Susan K, Kevin T

**1. Possible LRT focus for GREN**

* Some GREN members met just before Christmas to discuss how to talk to new politicians (Daphne, Susan K, John J, Kevin T)
* Noted that LRT is the big issue, and that politicians, especially new ones, need education on it, since it’s a decision they will be voting on in March, based on recommendations from Region staff. Region not communicating well, except on technical issues, and people don’t understand what it all means.
* Shortly before Christmas, Kevin arranged an hour with Ken Seiling to ask where are things at with Region, and Susan K, Kevin and John J met with him. Ken supports the LRT but doesn’t grasp that communication needs are so dire. He suggested we meet with some Region staff—Mike Murray, Nancy Button, head of Transit and others in planning.
* First, we need to see if GREN wants to dedicate time to supporting LRT. John will see about getting Jeff Cosello (transport expert from UW) to speak at next GREN meeting---give a short presentation with lots of time for questions and discussion. John will schedule next GREN meeting based on his availability.
* John will also go ahead scheduling meeting with Region staff, since time is short.
* Suggested that GREN liaise with other groups involved in pro-transit discussions, especially Tri-cities Transit Action Group (TRITAG)
* Suggested we have a strategy session after meeting with Jeff to decide on actions: meeting with councilors/ Township mayors, make presentations, generate materials, write letters?

**2. Thin Turnouts at GREN Meetings -What can we do?**

* Suggested that since we’re activists, best way to rally people is around particular issues rather than just meeting.
* Perhaps meet every other month, and hold several social/public events with speakers each year.
* Silver Spoon good location for dinner events. Need to find larger places for public events.

**3. GREN Support for Aamjiwnaang First Nation**

* Lulu emailed a suggestion that GREN support the Aamjiwnaang First Nation in its claim against pollution from Suncor.
* Suggested that we try to get a representative from the group to speak at the February GREN meeting and form a committee to fundraise and/or get media attention, support from churches (Don Roberts), raise awareness of the issue.
* John will get speaker and respond to Lulu.

4. Greg will review **Draft Regional Greenlands Network Implementation Guideline** and draft comments on behalf of GREN.

Minutes by Susan Bryant, Jan 6, 2011