

Previous Committee Research and Recommendation

From Steering Committee Meeting Notes, April 11, 2002:

Organizational Structure for Council

Anna asked for a motion – wanted to give the group the opportunity to respond prior to moving forward with her recommendations. There was no response. However, there was discussion. Mike – questions whether Dana would pass the IRS requirements if the decision was to form a non-profit. The term and verbiage of the contract requirements appeared to be more specific, not sure Dana meets that requirement. Rick said he checked with his accountant – it all comes down to “control.” If the Council “controls” Dana’s work load and schedule – Dana feels comfortable with working within the “gray area” of the IRS requirements. Mike – would like to see the group continue at the current status – not sure the money is there to go the other route. Rick is impressed with what CPRC&D is doing for the LTWC – seems that we are getting a lot of bang for the buck.

MOTION: Anna made a motion to pursue growing our relationship with the current fiscal agent (CPRC&D). Larry seconded the motion.

Discussion: It was suggested that there is a need that someone go to the CPRC&D annual meeting. Need to make sure there is a presence at one or two meetings a year. There are great grant opportunities. Long term goal would be that someone that has been on the Steering Committee be on the board of CPRC&D. Dave – would like to see more definition of what is “long term.” Larry – once decision to stay with them is made – we do need to look at where we are going. A lot of small grants will come in through CPRC&D. It would be a “teaming” effort. Anna – more interested in the recommendation to the council for the organization structure. She made it clear there is enough information for clarification if anyone wants that.

Motion carried – 10 thumbs up – 1 four fingers (don’t support but will not block).

From General Council Meeting Notes, April 30, 2002:

Recommendation for formal organization structure – Anna DeLocis

The Steering Committee recommendation for a formal structure is to pursue current working relationship with Cascade RC&D, our current fiscal agent, and not form a non-profit organization. Background: currently we’re a volunteer group that uses Cascade Pacific RC&D and contractors. The Watershed Council wanted to look at obtaining funding and other options by changing our status. Many reasons for this recommendation including but not limited to: 1) Looked at IRS regulations 2) Asked contractors questions about their needs 3) Explored our relationship with Cascade Pacific RC&D – they can receive grants from foundations for us, which in our current status is something we couldn’t do. That’s why we looked into changing. 4) Non-profit takes more administration and cost to deal with it. There was council consensus to accept Steering Committee’s recommendation.