

HBHWG
PARTICIPANT RESPONSES
LUNCH FORUM: MARCH 26, 2014

I. WHAT DO YOU WANT THE NEW COMMITTEE TO ACHIEVE?

1. Bring life back to Humboldt Harbor__shipping, rail and industrial__not just tourism and aquaculture.
2. Both groups need to work together.
3. All the agencies with a say in the development of our harbor need to work together cooperatively and openly to insure our deep water port (the only local asset capable of producing substantial numbers of long-term-living-wage-jobs) is properly developed to relieve our economic stagnation as a result of our fast becoming nothing much more than a touristy backwater.
4. Promote development of transportation infrastructure including rail and port.
5. Assist and promote Timber heritage Museum and excursion rail.
6. Work together on a common goal of port development.
7. Make it easier to run and start a business on Humboldt Bay. It is a very difficult are to stay in business.
8. Work with public agencies in order to reduce the amount of time and energy to obtain a permit.
9. Communicate with each other and work together to move forward.
10. Determine the loss of jobs over the last 20 years. What is the financial cost of that loss in dollars.
11. A cohesive plan on creating and maintaining infrastructure and pre-permitting to promote an avenue to create good paying jobs in and around the harbor.
12. How specifically do you plan to create enough good jobs to bring prosperity in this area? This means THINK BIG, look ahead, not just “business as usual.” We need to see a plan.
13. Create jobs by developing the harbor and infrastructure.
14. ONE plan adopted by all 4 agencies plus any other local agency that is affected by loss and gain of jobs.
15. Evaluate how/why \$\$ is leaving the county; and how/why we can work to reduce the \$ export and increase the \$ import.
16. Collaboration.
17. Determine whose role the resolution pertains. Harbor marketing plan seems to belong to the harbor district and don't only have one.
18. Plan for recreation; contaminant clean-up; harbor safety for recreation users; support big trails to build tourism; support Harbor District.
19. Identify realistic and feasible ways for Humboldt Bay to promote job growth.
20. Jobs, working with the ecosystem.
21. Reach out to HSU, CR for possible skill class training. My son graduated from McKinleyville HS and most of his friends had to leave the area for work.
22. Advance projects that will create a better economic outlook for the harbor and Humboldt County.
23. Brain-storming areas that the multi-agency can tan take concerted action to move forward.

HBHWG
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24. Clearly delineate between the HARBOR (the economic asset) and the BAY (non-harbor; conservation and recreation i.e., a dotted line on a map then assign a priority to each area, based on “best use”, i.e.

Harbor Economic	Non-Harbor Recreation	Non-Harbor Conservation
A	B	C
B	C	B
C	A	A

II. WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR THE NEW COMMITTEE?

1. Why are the meetings closed to the public?
2. What are doing to support the return of rail to the bay?
3. What jobs do you propose?
4. What are your road blocks?
5. Why have they agreed to disregard the resolutions (stating the purpose and goals they were chosen to represent of their agencies__supposedly to come up with some other, yet to be defined, mandate?
6. Would the committee consider using spoils for a surf break? __superbank__
7. how are you going to achieve what no committee in the past has been able to?
8. What does the committee plan to do and how will they be hands-on?
9. What industries do you envision can be introduced to the area, by improvements to the harbor?
How many jobs?
10. Why would you exclude public comment at all your meetings? Perhaps at least quarterly, hold your meetings in a public forum or bi-annually.
11. How many jobs do you think we need? After timber, fishing, etc. left, where do you see these coming from? How do you plan to attract industrial/manufacturing jobs? By “jobs,” this means paying enough to support a family.
12. The harbor District has done a fantastic job in moving the harbor forward. Without their direction the harbor would be dead. We need more recreational activities for boating.
13. How will you support the Harbor District in its work to clean up and prepare the old Simpson site? Remarkable progress is being made; it is important to NOT add or create barriers or public confusion.
14. In terms of my above statement (#1 - 19), what opportunities are near-term or far-term and what changes to our infrastructure would be needed for either?
15. What exactly is the purpose of the HBHWG?
16. Why is this an initiative timeframe set for 2025? What can actually happen to achieve these goals, i.e., jobs or outreach to business plus training for anyone who needs it.
17. How will projects move through the Committee to the responsible agencies?
18. Why haven't you reviewed the minutes of Jan. 29th? Will the minutes be included in future agendas?

HBHWG

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LUNCH FORUM: MARCH 26, 2014

III. WHAT ROLE DO YOU THINK THE HBHWG AND THE PUBLIC SHOULD HAVE NOW?

1. They should continue to work on the progress of the Humboldt Harbor including ideas from all sources. They also should be a watch-dog for the new committee.
2. I think full disclosures should always be made public.
3. Individual and through the HBHWG the public needs to keep up a continual drum beat reminder to our elective representatives that our area is in dire need more of long-term-living-wage-jobs. Tourism does not provide long-term-living-wage-jobs, and the ever-increasing drum beat toward a tourism dependent economy is turning our area into a touristy backwater. Our job base of long-term-living-wage-jobs is continually being tilted toward the short-term-non-living-wage-jobs provided by the tourist industry. At present the only local asset with the potential of changing that tilt by providing those vitally needed long-term-living-wage-jobs is the development of our deep water port and the transportation that is needed for its efficient utilization.
4. Provide ideas to the committee and promote conclusions to funding agencies and general membership.
5. The HBHWG should continue to work as liaison with the public.
6. Follow through on new and existing business support. Help stop the exit of business from Humboldt.
7. HBHWG should spend time limiting public agencies to a realistic time period on processing permits.
8. Continue working to identify projects that would create jobs
9. HBHWG must be allowed to be active in New Committee (perhaps non-voting, but participant!)
10. To stimulate thoughts in a positive way to create and enhance good paying jobs in the harbor.
11. Keep the Committee focused upon the goal of creating lots of good-paying jobs using the only asset--the harbor--we really have.
12. Provide public input to the Committee. Attend their meetings. Be the public's watchdog.
13. I personally think there should be no "public" member on the committee. But the public should be allowed to participate in receiving and giving info.
14. Transparency--bring the message to the people.
15. Determine how to rezone land to another use and clean up brown fields--need the private sector to start businesses. Government facilitates their process. Government *does create jobs. It's not our job.
16. Work with 100% transparency between HBHWG and the public. Act as cheerleaders for the work and progress currently being made by Harbor District.
17. Discovering and pursuing the above (# 11-14) with realistic expectations so actions can be taken more quickly.
18. Propose ideas that are economically ideal that will help preserve our planet.
19. Get out there and promote. I had a thought about the H.A.A. (Handicap accessibility act).
20. Excursions. Excursion trains.
21. Provide public opinion and ideas.
22. HBHWG can publish its "mission statement" and then publicize who/how/why it is not being realized.
23. There should be audiences allowed to present on the agenda--including members of the HBHWG.

HBHWG

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LUNCH FORUM: MARCH 26, 2014

IV. WHAT OTHER COMMENTS WOULD YOU LIKE US TO COMMUNICATE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE NEW COMMITTEE?

1. The meetings should open to the public.
2. Transparency, transparency, transparency. They were not elected to work in secret and keep the details of what they are doing from the public. That's not the way public's business is to be carried out in this country.
3. Please continue to communicate the need for a strong economic base to import to our area.
4. It is difficult, if not impossible, to start a business on HB when a simple permit from only one of the governing agencies takes a minimum of 1 1/2 years. Go through an example business start and you will see--very difficult.
5. Public agencies have too much involvement any harbor development and are the reason for such a stagnant industrial port.
6. Keep process open.
7. Where are the jobs that we have been told have come to the county? Why do we still have homeless, with so many NEW! JOBS?
8. Please take a pro-active stance in improving connectivity to the port of Humboldt. Seek funding opportunities to improve infrastructure including a rail road connection.
9. Put away all your buzz words and weasel-word habits and think Big, beyond the present into the future. We need to see real results.
10. Stay very open--pre-announce all meetings.
11. Stop asserting this as a "we vs. them" operation. I personally like a fight--but it is not in the best interest of the community. If it is true you want to collaborate...walk the talk.
12. Our harbor is harbor, not a port. We need to create recreational opportunities. Tourism is a big industry for our future--Remember oyster beds--very imp. to our economy. Promote recreational fisheries.
13. At our end of the table there was confusion about Brown Act and whether it applies when entities make appointments. Tribes have different rules but cities and county fall under BA rules.
14. We need more jobs now and finding avenues that will grow the local economy no matter how small or large are important. finding ways to make local development easier will bring us more business.
15. Using barges instead of trucks will save \$ and be economical? less trucks burning gas.
16. As a former 5th district Republican Committe (member?) I am interested in(?) taxes or incentives to draw businesses and to develop entry-level jobs for youth and people who have been out of work and new a new or re-entry career.
17. Speak up and express your thoughts.