

April 28, 2004 - Central Sierra Watershed Committee - Strategic Planning Session:

Noreen M. conducted a strategic planning session to help the group plan their goals and objectives for the future. She handed out a summary of the last four strategic planning sessions to be used as a base. She then distributed three colored sheets of paper to be used during the session. Everyone was asked to answer the question and write the following:

On the Yellow paper: in your own opinion, what challenges are facing CSWC today?

On the Green paper: what are all of the opportunities, no matter what the cost, if we could do **anything at all, what would it be?**

On the Blue paper: what would you actually like to see done by this committee in the next year?

The following were the suggestions made by the committee:

Yellow Paper: Challenges

- Funding - continued funds to support watershed
- People to do work - volunteers, agency coordinator, etc.; take care of prevailing wage issue; full participation
- State budget cuts/grants
- Development concerns - people moving here from the city/bay area and ignorant of the area, services, roads, traffic, etc.
- Public Education - no aquifers
- Madera County Board of Supervisors - getting them involved; education; lack of long range planning
- Overpopulation
- More community involvement to the committee
- ID projects to the community
- Water supply
- Sustain momentum on what we have done

Green Paper: "Pie-in-the-Sky"

- Engage locals and Board of Supervisors
- Greater publicity
- Grey water use/ reclaim water use
- More conservation
- More native/drought tolerant planting
- Erosion control - vegetation
- Development issues
- Treatment of unpaved roads
- Clean air/ clean rivers
- G5WG - model committee to receive dedicated funding and full-time staff
- Utilize resources people - technical education in schools
- Develop - "Do the Right Thing" programs, "Natural Resource Recycling" programs
- Ability to do resource analysis - general plans - uses/balance needed
- Realistic policy recommendations
- Definitive data on water supply and water quality equate to growth
- County be more active in conservation -» officer
- Tourism/recreation water
- Surface water
- Provide better waste systems for the area - take out old systems and install full systems
- Resolve water availability

- Money to sustain fuel reduction
- Keeping water in area of origin
- Continuing watershed studies

Blue Paper: Let's Do

- Encourage more local interest - water
- Long range plan - water, Madera County step up study
- Become TAG for all watershed groups in the area; more formalized, tender proposals
- Educate at local events
- Goals & Plans
- Host Central Sierra Watershed Quorum - Tulare Lake
- Develop citizen monitor to monitor quantity and quality - in foothills; implement and able
- Water M V - wells capacity / gone dry
 - Fuel reducing and get credit - more than just burning
 - Organize neighborhood clean-up programs
 - Encourage school programs
 - Continue overall efforts of mission statement
 - Find funding for road shows and staffing
 - Take strong position in community
 - Community involvement
 - Surface water

The major/leading areas from each section were:

Challenges:

- Funding - for a full-time staff person - state budget cuts and grants
- People - lack of volunteers
- Development of the land
- Madera County Board of Supervisors - need to be educated

"Pie-in-the-Sky" Ideas:

- Educate locals and Board of Supervisors
- CSWC - as a model and enough funding for full-time staff person

Let's Do:

- Long Range Plan - water in Madera County, step up study
- Education

Noreen M. suggested that CSWC should do a presentation to the Board of Supervisors. Tony W. stated that he already made a presentation to the Board of Supervisors from the planning commission. Noreen's suggestion is to go to the Board of Supervisors and educate them about CSWC, what they have done, who they are now, this is what we want to do, and this is how we can work together. Show them the successes and the goals; do not go to Educate them on issues, they already know what the issues are. This process could possibly begin with the drafting of a letter from CSWC to the Board of Supervisors.