

Great Lakes United

Milwaukee Focus Group Member Organizations

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Participants

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Issues and Concerns which member organizations face

Harold

- Conseration
 - urbansprawl as they affect lake levels and wet lands
 - salt and chlorine
 - destructin of the water table
- Coounty wide sewers
- running for pblic office for environmental reasons
- concerns over industrial process and the dumping of toxins
- land use developmant is geared to special interst groups-industrial
- planning is done at the county level, the communityis not consulted or informed.
- "taxation not representation"

Rosemary

- Died in the wool agencies whose membership is made up of professional polititians. Agencies such as SEWERPAC
- regional planning, land use and transportation
- the same people have been in for years
- they drive archaic policies
- they always argue for a lower % of clean-up
- the agency mind set lackes planning and foresight and trivializes new ideas.
- residints of cities are leaving due to archaic policies

Jean

- land use issues , planning and statutes for anexation to alter land use

Rosemary

- how we move around, transit, autos, air pollution-people don't get the link to pollutants from transit
- non point pollution is a whole, large picture, not enough people talking about this.
- talking about all of this as a unit, helps people understand.
- Groups need to put a program together.

Harold

- the wetlands are disappearing

Rosemary

- how to be effective with the DNR
 - train people to have collegial relationships with DNR, they are human and understaffed
 - confronting the DNR is ineffective

Roger

- auto emissions -acid rain
- how to come up with car pooling

How Would We Like It to Be

Harold

- mandatory mass transit, legislated county wide
- educate people on why not to block everything

Rosmary

- education
- get people to understand what is happening and not by just telling them to change
- work with county conservation departments on water quality
- work with farmers on non-point pollution-this could be very effective the current education is good

What should be GLU's Direction in the short term and in the Long term?

- I need to know much more about GLU
- GLU must be an information source
- develop a compendium of industry groups who are posing as environmental groups
 - articulate what they are doing and get that info out to member organizations
 - Parkside, UW, get information there
- generally find ways to get information into locations the public can easily access, libraries
- develop a list of places that will take info and make that list widely available
- governments get their information from staff, environmental policy is really created by staff. Develop a process for getting the right information to those staff people. Legislative councils, county boards, city research analysts.
 - these folks now get a lot of one sided material
- publish an index of information

- University extensions publication of non-point pollution index., get something in that
- DNR has a list of the people in the Conservation Departments, this could be a vehicle to get material out
- all governments have a pool of policy analysts. They are only as good as the information they get.
- GLU develop a list of key people, with the member organizations, those who can most likely influence policy and send them information
- GLU establish links with successes of Scandinavian countries, their information and methods, more information on how Europe is handling the chlorine problem
- The newsletter needs to be solid, basic, simple for lay people: to bring new people into GLU-need a lot of stamina if the information is too complex.
- create a fifteen minute video-information can be a combination of video and written.
- GLU to counteract one sided information-i.e. harbour commissioners
- all issues presented need to have a cost to society analysis.
- develop a method for recognition awards, builds morale and recognizes success, publicize success.
- have an info on request hotline-1-800 #
- there are contact persons attached to articles in newsletter to be able to get more detailed information
- make sure there is prompt response to requests
- update membership regularly

How has the resolutions to the AGM process worked for you?

Not been involved with it to date. Put the process on a timeline, have resolutions arrive by a deadline

Are the task force work groups effective for you?

Haven't heard of them or been involved in them.

- GLU to attain local areas for news release response
- raise GLU's profile
- GLU need not be front name leader; but a co-ordinating body, working in the background to prop up a local group on an issue.
- collect cases of how local groups did certain things and be able to send cases to all locations.
- share member organization lists, find the appropriate contact person in all larger organizations to send information to.
- develop local and regional member organization lists for encouraging local and regional networking
- board membership regular member meetings to:
network and information share