

GB Futures General Meeting
Tuesday, 6 September 2005
Community Centre 7 p.m.

▪ **Apologies:** Janette van den Bosch, Fred Te Miha, Joanna Piekarski, Jenny Treloar, Glenn Shaw, Alison Ramsay, Jay Robinson, Penny Griffith, Victoria Davis, June Baker, Sarah Chapman, Margaret Fricker

▪ **Welcome and short talk by GB Futures coordinator Lethea Erz:** what GB Futures has done since the previous general meeting in July:

Coordinating Council changes: Brian Petterson & Paul Gray moved into supporting roles; Theo Blyth joined; officer selection postponed until all members returned from travels.

Claude Lewenz's visit:

- meeting with planners 8 August
- interviews with numerous Bay residents during week
- public presentation 9 August AGM – 45 present
- two workshops 10 August: Planning Paradise Forever for All (23), Creating a Working Future for GB (20)
- presentation to Community Board 11 August – all but Councillors

TDC public meetings: GB Futures shared recommendations on integrated planning at public meetings on Takaka - Eastern GB Urban Growth Study (16 Aug) & Coast Landscape Character Assessment (30 Aug).

Upcoming GB Futures Events

- Joe Bell to present motion at Community Board's Sept.13 meeting calling for a new incorporated society, the People & Communities of Golden Bay, to carry out planning process
- Coordinating Council members to present Claude's powerpoint presentation on the community planning process to Crs Borlase & Riley this Friday
- Coordinating Council members to participate in a Tasman Futures/LTCCP focus group meeting tomorrow
- Requested extension of time frames for all TDC consultation processes that affect GB
- Friday 9 Sept. GB WEEKLY insert for people to use as public submission . Everyone is encouraged send it in, for public response will tell GB Futures if there's enough support for our continuing to assertively pursue a community-based planning process.
- October 4 meeting – to be confirmed – may involve TDC planners & policy staff for interaction on planning time frames and issues. More info in GB Weekly.
- Tuesday October 18: Sponsoring **Elisabet Sahtouris**, world-renowned scientist & author, speaking at High School auditorium. Her studies of biological evolution of species and systems provide guidance for human communities on how to organise ourselves most effectively for long-term survival and THRIVAL. One of only three NZ talks. More info in Weekly & other sources.

* **Community Groups** Spokespeople for six groups described what the group does and how it contributes to a sustainable future for GB. (Sustainability can be environmental and ALSO physical (health, fitness), social (quality of life), economic, cultural, and spiritual.)

- Mik Symmons for WorkCentre Trust
- Sheryl Nalder for Community Workers
- Murray Rogers for Community Gardens
- Carolyn McLellan for Rural Women
- Jan Morgan for Integrated Health Services Steering Group
- Merrin Westerink & Liza Eastman for GB Arts Council

Also David Morgan reported for Friends of Golden Bay that the Sea-Tow application is expected within the next month, and he has no other details. Derry Kingston explained the new position of RMA adviser at the GB Environment Centre. Naomi Middleton will start in several weeks.

▪ **Discussion facilitated by Katie Thurston**

Topic: How can all groups and the public *work together* to create sustainable environmental, physical, social, cultural, and spiritual well-being for GB residents, present and future, forever?

- Themes: networking, communication, action in concert
- Alan Vaughan - Aren't we already doing all these things? If not broken, don't fix.
- Need to maintain Community Board - work together - increase self-governance
- Pro-active planning vs reactive: create what we want instead of struggling to prevent what we *don't* want in GB
- Need for information available to all residents - what happens here, services, how to get involved.
 - common website for groups?
 - ways to provide info to people without computers.
 - Work Centre tries to keep track of who knows what and what's happening in the Bay. The GB Groups directory is maintained by Heartlands.
 - database of groups & individuals with special knowledge, expertise
 - central scheduling forum - on website? - a GB "diary keeper" to avoid conflicts
 - publicise in GB weekly
- Need ways to educate and inform community about threats to sustainability
- Planning issues - how to involve community in decision-making
- Importance of economic sustainability
 - need to find reliable, sustainable sources of employment and income
 - festival (either here or elsewhere) showcasing what's in GB
- What if GB worked toward self-sufficiency?
- Need to communicate about important issues & unite on common ground.
- Define critical "capital" in GB to protect: soil, air, water - decide where "prescriptive planning" is needed.

- Challenge - communication with each other and GB public about issues, and to get feedback. Idea: need way of conducting community referenda on issues involving important decisions.
- Make more effective use of existing communications & networks - formal & informal.
 - Community Board
 - Community & Whanau meetings: Community Centre 12 pm, 4th Tuesdays
 - GB Futures affiliated groups network
- **Supper and conversation enjoyed by all.**

.