

Participant Name	Address	Phone/Email
Shawnee Ashby (student)	P.O. Box 35 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2428 Aleutiagirl2008@yahoo.com
Casey Collison (student)	P.O. Box 62 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2323
Debbie Carlson Tribal Administrator	P.O. Box 50 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2445 cbaytc@aol.com
Roderick Carlson, Pres. Chignik Bay Tribal Council	P.O. Box 70 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2552
Alana Anderson, CHP	P.O. Box 12 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2310 Stuckinchignik@hotmail.com
Hilda Carlson (Elder)	P.O. Box 14 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2339
Polly Aleck	P.O. Box 32 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2232
Matthew Wiley (Mechanic)	P.O. Box 70 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2279
Jeanette Carlson, Director Tribal Environmental Program	P.O. Box 70 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2481 Jcar205840@aol.com
Richard Sharpe, Mayor City of Chignik Bay	P.O. Box 75 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2280 dick@chignik.org
Margie Macaully-Waite, Pres. Farwest Corporation	P.O. Box 330 Talkeetna, AK	Phone: 733-2266
Marlene Stepanoff, TCSW	P.O. Box 7 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2234 marlestp@aol.com
Dave Hermeling, VPSO	P.O. Box 94 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2273 chigbayvpso@alaska.com
Hattie Albecker, Director Ugashik Tribal Env. Program	101 Olga Lane Ugashik, AK 99613	Phone: 797-2331 hattieutvenv@starband.net
Austin Shangin, Council Mbr. Perryville Tribal Council	P.O. Box 89 Perryville, AK 99648	Phone: 853-2203 nvofperry@starband.net
Susan Flensberg, Bristol Bay Native Association	P.O. Box 130 Dillingham, AK 99576	Phone: 842-5257 susanf@bbna.com
Minnie Skonberg, Family Service Worker	P.O. Box 5 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2433
Greg Kingsley, Director Pilot Point Tribal Council Environmental Program	P.O. Box 448 Pilot Point, AK 99	Phone: 797-2273 gkingsleypip@yahoo.com
Amy Skonberg, Member Birch Americorp	P.O. Box 5 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2433 arskonberg@hotmail.com
Bertha Skonberg	P.O. Box 73 Perryville, AK 99	Phone: 853-2321 Sharondawn80@hotmail.com
Melanie Tidwell	P.O. Box 44 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2290
Celia A. Martinez	P.O. Box 101 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 742-2666
Billy Anderson	P.O. Box 12 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2310
Bonnie Thurston, Principal Chignik Bay School	P.O. Box 9 Chignik Bay, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2213 bthurston@lpsd.com
Delores K. Anderson, Admin. Native Village of Port Heiden	P.O. Box 49027 Port Heiden, AK 99549	Phone: 837-2428 lowieanderson@hotmail.com
Sherry Hermeling	P.O. Box 94 Chignik, AK 99564	Phone: 749-2227 louiesnet@gci.net
Sarah Anderson, student	P.O. Box 49027 Port Heiden, AK 99549	Phone: 837-2428

The community visioning began on April 8, 2004 with opening comments from the City Mayor Richard Sharpe, Tribal Administrator Debbie Carlson, Tribal Environmental Coordinator Jeanette Carlson and an overview of the meeting by Rural Outreach Coordinator Rosetta Alcantra. In addition, each participant was given the opportunity to introduce themselves and provide a brief update on their community projects.

Community visioning is a discussion of shared values and concerns and how they shape the future of the community. The overall objective of the meeting was to identify the shared values that define the way of life in these communities and how they connect to one another. This involves, identifying concerns and challenges that individual communities, and the area as a whole, will face in the next 1-3 years, identifying current and future projects planned for the area, and the environmental and economic impacts of those projects on lifestyle and community values. The process also includes identifying existing resources and infrastructure that can be utilized in an area planning process and to determine a way to continue regular communication and collaborative problem solving among the communities of the area.

Vision

Thursday morning was dedicated to laying the ground rules and discussing the importance of visioning. Ms. Alcantra facilitated this discussion. Vision is a description of a desired future. It is a plan based on what community members want and need for themselves, for their families, for their neighbors, and for future generations. Vision is more than a statement of purpose. It is agreeing on what the community believes is important to its collective lifestyle (their values) and it involves how the people make decisions based on their values and their needs for the future. Vision will also help guide how others perceive you (historical, cultural, lifestyle and values, it will help to define the future and manage change with ownership.

Community Values

Upon the general discussion regarding what is meant by vision, the participants worked on identifying community values. This was a group process and was the framing to gage the rest of the visioning discussion upon. Identifying community values is a critical step in the process of visioning. This exercise lays the foundation for productive dialogue. It was critical at this point to engage all the participants and allow them the opportunity to provide free flowing ideas. The facilitator had very little participation outside of recording the information. The group answered the following basic questions about their community. Please note there were several communities represented, however the values proved to be common throughout the region.

- ❖ What do you like about your community? What would you want to keep or strengthen for the future?
- ❖ What do you dislike about your community or area? What would you want to improve or change in the future?
- ❖ What historical values have carried your community through difficult times in the past?

The group produced a lengthy list of shared likes, dislikes and historical values. In an effort to establish priorities, the group was asked to have general consensus on the top ten likes, dislikes and historical values the community members appreciated about their respective community.

Overall there was agreement on the following items the community members liked:

- ❖ Subsistence – the value of the variety and availability of subsistence resources.
- ❖ Culture – appreciated the connection of the community to their tradition and customs.
- ❖ Land/environment – the vastness of land and the relatively clean state the environment is currently in.
- ❖ Safety – the value of personal and property safety.
- ❖ Schools – central to all communities, the communities are very proud of their children and the infrastructure. Schools are critical to the overall health of the community.

- ❖ Community hall – a central social meeting place for business and recreational activities for the community.
- ❖ Employment- (want to achieve)
- ❖ Health aides and health care – appreciation for basic human health and ability to meet emergency health needs.
- ❖ Small community/remote – the small community atmosphere allowed for knowing your neighbors, not having a transit population and provides a safe community.
- ❖ Technology – there is a relatively healthy technology component in these communities. Everyone has the ability to access the Internet, telephone accessibility and other modes of communication.

Top community dislikes:

- ❖ Unemployment -- Opportunities for employment are limited and many have to remove themselves from the community to access adequate paying jobs. Outside of moving there is also a sense of lack of support for local people getting jobs, there is a general perception that people from outside the community have a better opportunity for local jobs.
- ❖ Lack of communication and no community planning – in general there is frustration with the governing entities not communicating on a regular basis. This has caused misinformation as well as an inability to maximize and compliment existing resources.
- ❖ High cost of living and transportation – Because the communities are remote there are higher costs associated with shipping goods and supplies and in air travel.
- ❖ Littering and waste – a concern throughout the communities was getting people educated about what litter and waste is doing to the land and resources. Many people do not see the litter as it becomes the background and acceptable in communities.
- ❖ Lack of road maintenance
- ❖ Not enough for youth and young adults to do
- ❖ No adequate tsunami shelter, safety plan and solid waste management plan – There is a general need to coordinate the existing plans and to have a mechanism to update the plans on a regular basis. The natural cause emergencies are a concern as well as man made incidents. The communities are heavily reliant on subsistence resources and if there was a contamination issue relating to water it could be devastating to the communities within the area.
- ❖ Lack of coordination (communication 1st)
- ❖ No local elder care and assistance – currently many Elderly are moved to Anchorage to receive long-term care relating to prolonged illnesses, this separates them from their homes and shortens their life span. The community values the history and background the Elders provide and do not like that they have to send them away in their “golden years” when they could be contributing to protecting and preserving the history and culture of the community.

Like many communities throughout Alaska, historical values have protected the existence of rural Alaskan villages. Although the values are similar to the likes of the community, historical values are ones, which have sustained the community in critical times. This is especially evident in an area such as the Chignik region where many of the communities are reliant on a dwindling commercial fishing industry. The top historical values articulated by the participants include,

- ❖ Family – many families have existed in this area for decades and are descendents of the founders.
- ❖ Community support – like family, the community is an extension of the family. In hard times, the basic needs are met by a collectivism of the community to support those in need.
- ❖ Diversity – Although there is a strong lineage of families, there is also an appreciation of diversity. Many of the communities are home to diverse culture and backgrounds and welcome the contribution they offer to the community.

- ❖ Respect for nature – It is common knowledge that if you do not respect and manage the resources properly they will be depleted. The historical value of patronage to the land and nature is evident throughout each community.
- ❖ Being resourceful and creative – historically the communities have been innovative in order to survive. This includes maximizing their resources, human and financial as well as in planning.
- ❖ Grounded in culture – Culture is critical to knowing who you are and where you come from. The culture has sustained generations of people in this region.
- ❖ Respect for self and others
- ❖ Reason for values
- ❖ Evaluate projects, how they impact communities
- ❖ Development of needs
- ❖ Guide for community
- ❖ Ownership of product/process
- ❖ Regional responsiveness

Once the participants agreed on their priority values and the history of the value, there was a brief discussion regarding the relationship values have in the decision making process. Values can be the criteria for decision making on issues and projects that affect the life of the people in the community. This discussion set the framework to begin reviewing current and potential development projects throughout the region. Each participant was asked to update the group on the various projects they were working on or in the process of developing.

Identify Current and Future Projects

Chignik Bay

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Solid Waste Management Plan ✓ Developing policy and procedures for the Tribal Council ✓ Creating a comprehensive community plan ✓ Sub-Regional Clinic ✓ Road development ✓ Emergency Response Plans to address safety and hazardous waste issues ✓ Developing a wetlands protection plan ✓ Conducting a Hazwopper Training ✓ EMT Trainings ✓ CDL and Highway Equipment trainings ✓ Completing the boat harbor and dock. ✓ Building a tribally operated garage and shop for vehicles | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ School to Life program ✓ Creating intern opportunities within community for youth ✓ School crisis and emergency plan ✓ Reading First program ✓ Fire prevention grant to address safety and having carbon monoxide detectors made available for each home ✓ Health fair ✓ Implementation of a water drinking program for the youth ✓ Native dancing and participation in AFN. |
|--|---|

Ugashik

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ New landfill ✓ Solid Waste Management plan ✓ Environmental Justice grant application ✓ Developing Water Resource Management Plan ✓ Emergency Response Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ BIA Roads project ✓ New dock ✓ Creating a value added fish processing plan ✓ Alternative energy ✓ Recycling and collection. |
|--|---|

Port Heiden

- ✓ Researching the development of a watershed effort
- ✓ Participating in SEACAP
- ✓ Building a subsistence building for the community
- ✓ Utility upgrade (new generator, power boxes, wires)
- ✓ Developing an Emergency Response Plan
- ✓ Solid Waste Management plan
- ✓ BIA Road upgrade
- ✓ Recycling center
- ✓ Fish processing plan
- ✓ Safe boat harbor (need to gain access)
- ✓ Administrative trainings
- ✓ Buying a vehicle for the clinic
- ✓ Building an elders home
- ✓ Recipient of AFN Cultural grant for dancers
- ✓ Sports grant for a basketball court
- ✓ Homework/craft class for youth
- ✓ Aerobics
- ✓ Health fair and cultivating tribal council volunteers
- ✓ Culture Camp
- ✓ Raising salmon
- ✓ New library exchange.

Pilot Point

- ✓ SEACAP
- ✓ Alternative Energy -- putting up four wind turbines this fall

This discussion was very informative and brought out many areas where communities could be coordinating with one another on various projects. In particular, the participants were interested in using one another as resources and models for the various plans being development. For example, each community is interested or in the process of implementing a framework for Emergency Response and Solid Waste Plans. Other common interest areas include the need for an Elder's home, Alternative Energy, watershed protection, place for subsistence foods preparation, educational and culturally related projects.



Exercise: Creating an Ideal Community

The discussion and listing of ongoing and upcoming projects provided for an interactive activity to engage the participants in designing their ideal community. The group divided into small groups, and with markers and imagination crafted and planned their community.

One of the most apparent themes in the illustrations was the importance of the school. Each group had a school strategically placed in the middle of the community. In comparison to other infrastructure and/or elements of the community the school was also of a larger scale. The illustrations were well thought out in terms of placement of buildings and their relationship to traditional use areas. Also included in the plans were areas for recycling materials. Each group had the opportunity to explain their community and why each element was important to them.

Future Projects: Pros and Cons

On day two the group spent the morning discussing projects and reviewing the list of values, likes and dislikes of their communities and how they impact the future of the communities. The group also came up with a list of topics to discuss the pros and cons and their impact on the communities and the region. The following topics

were identified as current or potential development opportunities within the region; Alternative Energy, Mining, Roads and Watershed Protection. The group split up into smaller discussion groups and reviewed the value statements and looked at the positive impacts and the negative impacts these topics could potentially bring to the community and area. After each group completed their task, the general group reconvened and discussed the topic collectively.

Alternative energy is currently being researched and attempted in several of the communities. There has been an ongoing effort to communicate with one another and share ideas about challenges, issues and potential for collaboration. This is a relatively new concept and is currently the only area statewide alternative energy is being explored.

+	-
Cheaper utility costs	High expectations
Cleaner air	Cost of educating
Pride for community	Maintains? Better or worse?
Jobs	Risk (what if doesn't work)
Creative thinking	Time consuming
Model for Alaskans	Funding for development
+/- Local management	Endangered species act
-Less issues with oil spill	Local monument
	Noisy
	Eye sore
	Battery storage
	Back haul cost

Mining has gained increasing momentum throughout the state in general. The group wanted to discuss mining as an issue primarily due to the pending development of the Pebble Copper Mine near Nondalton. Mining has stirred considerable debate in the media and in other forums as many small communities wrestle with dwindling economic opportunities.

+	-
Increase in population <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ More students ▪ Increase employment ▪ More businesses ▪ Better transportation ▪ More money into the region 	Stress on community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schools ▪ Health services ▪ Housing ▪ Mischief
Money revenue to local government	“Outsiders” in community
Job opportunity	Water impact
More stable economy	Shift in voting power
Diversity	Maintenance concerns
Roads	Environmental concerns
Travel	Access to lands
Corporate involvement	Long-term damage
Diverse Training	Cultural changes
	Land disturbance
	Visual impact
	Increase in litter

Resource Protection focused primarily on land and water protection. The group looked at the resources in a visionary perspective over a long period of time. There are current projects throughout the region addressing long term protection of watersheds and lands.

+	-
Quality of the water	Adverse Economic affects
Fisheries protection	Social ramifications
Protecting wetlands	Organization to maintain
Protecting subsistence foods	Initial start up
Clean land and water for future generations	
Collaboration/local control	
Protecting diversity	
Cultural sustainability	
Without agency influence	
Limits competition	
Maximizes resources	
Increase communication	

Roads is a subject very much in the lime light of the communities. There are current projections to have connections established between communities within the next five years. This issue has been very visible in the media statewide and to some degree within the region. The communities individually have not had the opportunity to discuss with one another the impacts.

+	-
Utility infrastructure	Increase in accidents
Freight access	Solid waste issues
Deep Water Port expansion	Increase in population
Municipal airport	Increase in waste generation
Inter-village commerce	Increase in hunters
Increase in school population	Increase in social issues
Competitive market	Increase in sport fishing
Jobs	Road maintenance
Emergency response	Subsistence
Subsistence	Sustainability
Landfill area	Environmental hazards to water and air quality
Tourism	Recreation area development
Transportation	Increased development
Lower transportation costs	Decrease in communication
Stores	Decrease in community coordination
Lodging	

Community Resources

To complete the discussion the group also created a listing of potential resources for both funding and technical services. Following is a listing of ideas for collaboration.

- Lake and Peninsula Borough
- Bristol Bay Native Association (Elder Care – Tony Holmes)
- COPs Grant – Computer upgrade
- Alaska Village Initiatives (values of resources and corporations) Tom Harris
- The Nature Conservancy
- Federal agencies (USFWS)
- Conservation Easements
- Individual Schools, Lake and Peninsula School District
- SAVIK
- Bristol Bay Campus
- Talent Search (Mary Bruewer)
- Sea Otter Commission
- Native American Fish & Wildlife Society
- Palmer Tsunami Center
- USDA/Natural Resource Conservation
- Alaska Inter-Tribal Council
- Elders/Youth/Community Members
- National Wildlife Federation
- Alaska Conservation Foundation
- Alaska Soil & Water Conservations District
- Teachers, Environmental Staff, Health Aides, Fishermen
- Greg Bricher (BBEESC)
- YRITWC
- Nushagak – Multchatna Watershed
- Kenai River Watershed

Wrap Up

The goal of the community visioning was to allow for the communities to begin communicating. AWEN was able to provide for the beginning of a long-term process that would ideally evolve into a much more structured and continual means for the neighboring communities to coordinate projects, discuss future development and to collectively review potential impacts to their values. One of the primary fears about the beginning of the process was the motivation and the spearheading it would require. It was articulated early on that the reason for the visioning gathering is admirable; however, after the meeting the question lies in what will happen? This meeting laid the foundation and framed a need for continued and enhanced communication, however it is up to the individual communities and the participants to provide the motivation and groundwork to continue working together and finding creative ways to compliment one another.

What next? The group came up with the following work plan. Subsequent meetings would evolve into a more formalized process in either a format of an existing effort or into a new effort such as an area wide watershed protection effort. The group agreed to come up with a temporary plan to continue the discussion and look at ways to build communication within the communities and with the region.

What	Who	When
Summary of meeting	Rosetta	May 1
Follow-up meeting teleconference	Dave Hermeling Rosetta Alcantra Jeanette Carlson Sue Flensburg Lowie Anderson Hattie Albecker Roderick Carlson	
Calendar of Events	Sue Flensburg: Organize info. Greg Kingsley Jeanette Carlson Lowie Anderson Hattie Albecker Shawnee Ashby Sarah Anderson	May 1
Inter-community Coordination	Dave Hermeling	City meets 1 st Saturday of each month