

Carpe Diem - Western Water & Climate Change Project

Executive Committee Meeting

Tuesday January 12, 2010

9:00am PST

Present: Holly Hartmann, Bill Mitchell, Kimery Wiltshire, Jenny Corlett & Kathy Crowley

Not able to attend: Lillian Kawasaki, John Shepard

1. KRESGE PROPOSAL

Question:

Because Kresge is being asked to provide 40% of the Project's 2010 budget, John Nordgren (Program Officer) is concerned about not building unsustainable capacity. The Project needs to answer the following questions:

1. How will the Carpe Diem Project secure the remaining 60% of the 2010 project budget?
2. How will the Carpe Diem Project translate its process and knowledge base into long-term sustainable income streams?

Decision:

No decision necessary; discussion only.

Key Points:

Building capacity:

- ▶ As a measure of success, most initiatives will become independent and self-organizing and will generate their own capacity. This is something that Carpe Diem will not be responsible for over the long term.
- ▶ Carpe Diem should be able to point to a core group of foundations that will continue, at least for the next 1-2 years, to provide sustaining support for core operations after the first two years of start-up funding: Bullitt, Campbell, Tides, Goldman, etc.
- ▶ The team will form a fundraising committee to further discuss these ideas and bring in someone with outside thinking and expertise.

Core staffing:

- ▶ There is concern around not having a program and development manager: who will interact with prospective funders/donors given Kimery's limited time? The team will think about how various project team members can plug in to demonstrate the Project's breadth and make fundraising more successful.
- ▶ Core staff is currently at 1.5 FTE, plus consultants.
- ▶ Once funding is secured, the Project will make the following changes:
 - An Issues & Policy Director will begin July 1, 2010. The position will directly manage the different working groups that are operating simultaneously, and will be the Washington DC liaison.
 - Project Manager will increase to full time.
 - Finance Manager will increase from one to two days.

General comments/additions:

- ▶ Holly provided this insight: There really are no solutions to climate change impacts; rather, the work at hand is about navigating dilemmas. That is why the Carpe Diem Project is so critical - it provides the process and principles for navigation.
- ▶ The matter of adaptation should be more apparent earlier in the proposal.

2. PROJECT STATUS

Question:

Status of the Project's funding, staffing, and three priority initiatives?

Decision:

No decision necessary; discussion only.

Key Points:

Funding:

- ▶ Carpe Diem closed 2009 with \$70,000 in the bank.
- ▶ Current average monthly expenses: \$25,000.
- ▶ WECC convening prospects
 - SD Bechtel Foundation has asked for a \$10,000 proposal.
 - GE Power & Water, CH2M Hill, and Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck are all considering sponsorships of \$5,000.

Staffing:

- ▶ Project Manager Jenny Corlett's time has increased from two to three days a week. Funding permitting, this will increase to four days a week.

Initiatives:

- ▶ WECC: the policy brief is coming together well thanks to John Shurts and Jim Ruff; the convening participation list is close to capacity.
- ▶ Healthy Headwaters: the Project will hold a convening for the Headwater working group in Seattle on either Friday March 19 or Friday March 26.
- ▶ CO River Accord: the initiative is moving in the right direction and general reception is positive.

3. PROJECT TEAM

Question:

Status of Project Team? Any ideas for new Project Team or Executive Committee members?

Decision:

No decision necessary; discussion only.

Key Points:

- ▶ Kathy Jacobs is taking a leave of absence from the team during her tenure at the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).
- ▶ John Shepard will be on sabbatical for three months beginning March 1, 2010.
- ▶ The Executive Committee will discuss ideas for additions to the Project Team/Executive Committee at the next meeting.