

ICEHI/PACE-EH
Environmental Health Assessment Team (EHAT)
MINUTES

Date: Thursday November 10, 2005
Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Location: North Whidbey Family Resource Center

Present: Mark Lathrop, David Macys, Chris Markle, Kristy Miller, Jim Patton, Linda Rhodes (Chair), Celine Servatius, Leslie Stevens (Vice Chair)

Guests: Katie Hicks, Jill Wood

Staff Present: Keith Higman, Steve Hoffman, Tim McDonald, Nancy Farnsworth

Excused: RoseAnn Alspektor, Phyllis Brett, Lisa Clark, Patty Folkestad, Kevin Rio Kiper, Marie Piper, Rob Voigt

Unexcused: Reece Rose

Call to Order: Linda Rhodes EHAT Chair called the scheduled meeting of the Environmental Health Assessment Team to order at 5:38 pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Review Minutes from October 2005 Meeting

- a) Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Brief Introductions and Welcome

- a) Everyone welcomed. Visitors introduced: Katie Hicks and Jill Wood.

3. Emerging Issues

- a) Past:
 - 1. Discussion of proposed hunting in public lands ordinance. The Commissioners are developing another draft plan to present at a public meeting.
 - 2. After the New Year, EHAT will discuss WNV educational opportunities in the community.
- b) New:
 - 1. WA State Department of Health, Disaster Preparedness Handbooks were given out for personal information.
 - 2. WA State Board of Health is performing a literature review on the relationship between the built environment and health. This information will be used to develop a statewide work plan.

4. Presentation: Draft Plan for Non-motorized Trails in Island County

- a) Presentation given by Jill Wood from Island County Public Works Department: The draft plan for non-motorized trails in Island County.
- b) Reviewed the county map identifying the existing trails, and proposed trails.
- c) The Island County Trails Plan will focus on non-motorized trails on Whidbey and Camano Islands for walking, hiking, road cycling, mountain biking, kayaking, and equestrian purposes.
- d) The Trails Plan was developed with community input from focus groups and public workshops. The goal is to enhance the livability and connectivity of our communities. Having a safe and interconnected trail system encourages activity, supports healthy lifestyles and increases transportation options for the entire community. The proposed routes and locations came from the public suggestions.
- e) Anticipate bringing the full draft plan to the public in December, and have it adopted in January 2006.

- f) Highlights from discussion included plans by region of the county:
1. Camano Island – Trailhead development, walking routes from Camano to Stanwood addition to roadways, and Kayaking campgrounds.
 2. North Whidbey – Priorities within the City of Oak Harbor, trailheads off of Scenic Heights area, and better access and walking trails in Seaplane Base area. Establish a trail to connect Oak Harbor to Joseph Whidbey Park, increase general beach access, trails in State Park area, and connect to the Pacific Northwest Trail thru Deception Pass.
 3. Central Whidbey – Continue the Pacific Northwest Trail thru that area, establish a Kettle’s trailhead, increase general trails in Coupeville, work on trails in the Ebey’s Landing, and establish walking paths along Madrona Way.
 4. South Whidbey – Make Freeland more walkable, increase connections in Langley, and develop a Maxwellton Trail.
- g) Discussion Period: EHAT inquired on how they can be the most effective in helping the implementation of the trails plan. Jill said that at this time increasing general public awareness, education, and enthusiasm will help with implementation of the action plan. Discussed the Freeland element, and EHAT wants to survey the community members and determine their walkability needs. Discussed ways to include other community groups and the schools in the implementation process. The Trails Plan design team will list projects within a timeframe, and include possible funding source.

5. Subcommittee Updates

- a) Dumping – Discussed the educational brochure, and flyer developed by subcommittee. EHAT request that the flyer be circulated for approval before distribution. Update by Steve Hoffman on the progress of the Litter and It Will Hurt program. Met with City of Oak Harbor staff, and Steve and Jim Patton will draft a letter to the Public Works Director requesting signage on city trucks and along the roadways. Letter will possibly be signed by EHAT chair. Would like to show the Dept. of Ecology video on “Securing Your Load” at next month’s meeting.
- b) Walkability – Working on draft work plan. Want to build community partnerships and determine role in helping implementation of the Non-motorized Trail Plan.
- c) Communication – Short staffed. Haven’t developed an action plan. Will focus on membership and recruitment. Steve and David to work on communication issues.

6. Subcommittee Work Groups

- a) Time did not allow EHAT to work in subcommittee groups.

7. Schedule Subcommittee Meeting (Plan Dates)

- a) Time did not allow. Will determine by email.

8. Closing Business

- a) EHAT agreed to meet in December.
- b) Steve Hoffman to contact IT about the phone lines in the lobby, and establishing the ability to phone conference meetings in the building.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.