

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

Date: Thursday October 13, 2005
Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Location: Taylor Road Fire Station, Oak Harbor, WA

Present: Patty Folkestad, Mark Lathrop, David Macys, Chris Markle, Jim Patton, Marie Piper, Linda Rhodes (Chair), Celine Servatius, Rob Voigt

Guests: Katie Hicks, Jill Wood

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

Excused: RoseAnn Alspektor, Phyllis Brett, Lisa Clark, Kevin Rio Kiper, Bob McNeill, Kristy Miller, Laurie Mosolino, Leslie Stevens (Vice Chair)

Unexcused: Reece Rose

Call to Order: Linda Rhodes EHAT Chair called the scheduled meeting of the Environmental Health Assessment Team to order at 5:41 pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Review Minutes from September 2005 Meeting

- a) Correction to minutes: The meeting was called to order by Leslie Stevens (Vice Chair), and led until Linda Rhodes (chair) arrived. Change Heading #4 to: Community Process Overview.
- b) Minutes approved as amended.

2. Brief Introductions and Welcome

- a) Attendees briefly introduced themselves. Recognized visitors Katie Hicks, and Jill Wood.
- b) Katie Hicks is a new employee for the health department, and expressed an interest in participating in EHAT.
- c) Tim McDonald reviewed the handout for volunteers. EHAT members were asked to complete the forms as part of the Island County Volunteer Program. Discussed the General Provisions of the program.

3. Emerging Issues

- a) Discussed the Commissioner's public meeting on allowing hunting and firearms on Camano Ridge, Kettles Trail, and Deer Lagoon.
- b) Meeting on October 17th is to disapprove both proposed ordinances, and public comment will not be heard. The Commissioners will draft a revised proposal and release it to the public at a later time.
- c) Residents in Penn Cove are taking a different approach to dealing with hunting in public areas, by dealing directly with hunters to resolve the issue. The residents initiated the community process, and the Fish and Wildlife Department is participating.
- d) WNV update: WNV found in Yakima County horse. First case of the year acquired in Washington. Linda Rhodes approached local groups to discuss the West Nile Virus issue. They are willing to work with EHAT to anticipate and build dialogue before the next season. Groups expressed a concern regarding the management of the Mosquito Control District, and who would be appointed as the Commissioners. Groups are in favor of supporting a community educational effort. Suggestion made that EHAT sponsor a forum to address West Nile Virus in Island County, and possibly invite a MCD Commissioner from another area to speak on their process. EHAT agreed to discuss this after the New Year.
- e) Flu virus: Local flu clinic is carrying out the CDC directive in offering the vaccine. County Health Department website has up-to-date information on the vaccine.

4. Subcommittee Updates

- a) Illegal Dumping: Staff will explore signage in Oak Harbor, and contact the County Engineer and the Department of Transportation regarding requirements. EHAT would like the grant to pay for the signs if appropriate. Staff will research and price surveillance equipment that can be used at known dump sites. EHAT members expressed concern with using surveillance equipment. EHAT requested that Matt Kaufman from Skagit County be contacted to help identify the use of equipment, identify the technology, and estimate the cost. A motion was given and EHAT supported contacting Matt Kaufman to speak to EHAT about the Skagit County program.

The steps for implementing the Litter and It Will Hurt Program will be identified by staff. If needed, EHAT agreed to submit a letter of support for the program to elected officials. Members requested that all options be presented on the types of signs, at a future EHAT meeting.

- b) Walkability Issue: Jill Wood briefly discussed the draft plan being developed by the Public Works Department, which will address non-motorized trails in Island County. The plan is community driven, and will work to make more sites accessible to the community. The plan will be the vision or roadmap to where the community wants to go with non-motorized trails. EHAT expressed an interest in hearing the plan, and Jill Wood agreed to present the draft at a future meeting. The plan will go before the Planning Commission for review, and public meetings will be held for comments at the end of November. EHAT agreed to hear the plan, and possibly help with the implementation.
- c) Walkability Subcommittee group discussed their draft action plan, which will address:
 1. Continue participation with the non-motorized trail groups
 2. The Comp. Plan (Reviewing and making suggestions in the non-motorized transportation section. Work with Planning Commission)
 3. Contact community groups working on walkability (Address access in urban areas, review options for Freeland)
- d) Communication/Membership: The group will be working on recruitment ideas. Bob McNeill, who was working on this subcommittee resigned from EHAT.

5. Subcommittee Work Groups

- a) Time did not allow EHAT to work in subcommittee groups, instead members wanted to give feedback to subcommittee groups during their updates.

6. Announcements & Closing Business

- a) Suggestion given to allow Katie Hicks to submit an EHAT application. EHAT members agreed that she would be an asset to the EHAT team.
- b) Subcommittee groups to coordinate meeting before the November EHAT meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.