

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

Date: Thursday September 8, 2005
Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Location: Monroe Road Fire Station, Oak Harbor, WA

Present: Mark Lathrop, David Macys, Laurie Mosolino, Marie Piper, Linda Rhodes (Chair), Celine Servatius, Leslie Stevens (Vice Chair)
Staff Present: Nancy Farnsworth, Keith Higman, Steve Hoffman, Tim McDonald
Excused: RoseAnn Alspektor, Phyllis Brett, Lisa Clark, Patty Folkestad, Kevin Rio Kiper, Bob McNeill, Chris Markle, Kristy Miller, Jim Patton, 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 5:41 pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Review Minutes from July 2005 Meeting

- a) Minutes approved as submitted.

2. Introduction of New Grant Coordinator

- a) Keith Higman introduced the new project coordinator Steve Hoffman.
- b) Steve addressed EHAT and discussed some of his professional background.

3. EHAT Member Introductions

- a) EHAT members introduced themselves, told where they live, and gave their background information.

4. Grant Overview

- a) Tim McDonald gave a brief overview of the first grant, and the PACE process. Explained how EHAT had identified multiple EH issues of concern, and then prioritized them down to the top two issues of illegal dumping and walkability.
- b) Discussed how the PACE process allows people to participate in the decision making process, improve the quality of life and disease prevention.
- c) Discussed how this project is important, and how it is being looked at as a model to be used throughout the nation.
- d) This is an ongoing process and should be referred to as a program or project, rather than a grant.

5. Subcommittee Updates

- a) Dumping: Leslie Stevens gave the subcommittee update. Discussed the WSU litter assessment survey. WSU is in the process of evaluating what kind of litter that is identified at the survey locations, and attempting to determine the source (residents vs. visitors). The Solid Waste Code revision is still in the process. The action plan is being updated, and the Litter and It Will Hurt program is being evaluated for implementation.
- b) Walkability: Mark Lathrop gave the subcommittee update. The Comp Plan is being reviewed. Mark is representing EHAT at the Non-motorized Trail System meetings. The action plan is still in the development process. Discussed partnering with other groups to host a forum, and possibly having a guest speaker. Suggested to have as speakers: the Mayor of Moses Lake, Kevin Nelson from the EPA.
- c) Communication Plan: Subcommittee update given by Dave Macys. Discussed educating the public, getting them involved, and updating them on EHAT's action plan. Discussed the draft

communication plan for education and outreach. Discussed giving public presentations and utilizing the talking points.

6. Emerging Issues

- a) Discussed the upcoming Board of County Commissioner's public hearing on allowing hunting in the area of public trails. EHAT members expressed concern for public safety of bikers and hikers, the hindering of public access to the trails, and the economic impact from liability. A motion was given to write a letter opposing the proposition to allow hunting on the proposed trails. EHAT members agreed to submit a letter to the Commissioners. Mark and Linda will draft a letter, and submit it to public record.
- b) Discussed the press release on the possible first WNV carrying mosquito being tested in Franklin County, WA.
- c) EHAT members suggested discussing WNV educational efforts with other community groups.

7. Update on Physical Activity Grant

- a) Reviewed the progress of the project, and how individuals can die earlier due to chronic diseases caused by overweight.
- b) Key informant interviews to be conducted. The following EHAT members volunteered to participate in the interviews: Laurie Mosolino, Mark Lathrop, Dave Macys, Leslie Stevens, Celine Servatius.

8. WSU Contract & Litter Assessment Survey

- a) Keith Higman gave an update on the WSU litter assessment data collection survey.
- b) 16 different sites have been identified to carry out a site characteristic, and quantify the litter in those areas.
- c) WSU is conducting multiple levels of analysis of the sources of materials at the survey sites.
- d) The survey will be completed by November 1st, and the conclusion will be reported from the site evaluations.

9. Update on Current Events

- a) Update on the Board of Health composition: Mayor Cohen has been reinstated, and the BOH is back to the same amount of members.

10. Closing Business

- a) Discussed a membership drive or recruitment effort. Agreed to merge this effort with the communication subcommittee. Staff will provide contact information to Linda and Dave to allow them to contact current members before the October EHAT meeting.
- b) Staff is moving their office to the North Whidbey Family Resource Center on Regatta on September 30th.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:37pm.