

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

Date: Thursday, December 14, 2006 **Time:** 5:30pm – 7:30pm **Location:** NWFRC

Present: David Macys, Jim Patton, Chris Markle, Katie Hicks, Leslie Stevens (Acting Chair), Elaine Woods

Guests: Aneta Hupfauer, Island County Health Department

Staff Present: Keith Higman, Whitney Webber, Valerie Matazzoni

Excused: Phyllis Brett, Tim McDonald, Lisa Clark, Patty Folkestad, Kevin Rio Kiper, Linda Rhodes, Reece Rose, Celine Servatius, Carl Stephens, Marie Piper, Art Burke

Call to Order: Leslie Stevens called the Environmental Health Assessment Team (EHAT) meeting to order at 5:40pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Review Minutes from November 2006 Meeting

- a) Correction noted from the October minutes:
 - Item 4e stated: It was suggested that EHAT approach the BoH to bring up West Nile Virus as the next area of focus for EHAT.
 - It should have read instead: The Board of Health will be advised that EHAT will begin focusing their attention on West Nile Virus, the 3rd of 4 areas of focus identified by EHAT.

2. Elaine Woods introduced as newest member to EHAT

- a) Elaine is a small business owner on the south end of the island. She has an interest in walking and health.
- b) Elaine mentioned that alternating the location of the monthly EHAT meetings would be beneficial to all EHAT members.

3. CDC Conference

- a) Arrangements for keynote speaker still in works.
- b) EPA is touting PACE as a model program for community-based environmental health assessment. EPA and CDC formed a collaboration to strengthen and coordinate the role of federal agencies in community-based environmental health initiatives of local health departments. EPA's CARE (Community Action for a Renewed Environment) program might be a funding source for implementation of some of EHAT's project activities.
- c) Keith and Whitney met with other CDC grantees to share EHAT's successes.
- d) Keith addressed three themes at the conference: (1) Global warming, (2) Healthy housing, and (3) Community involvement.

4. Acknowledgements

- a) Whitney and Valerie thanked EHAT for their time and dedication and for welcoming them to the group.
- b) Valerie passed out holiday cards and a review newsletter to EHAT members.
- c) Whitney extended a special thanks to Jim for putting in extra time with the LIWH signs and presentations to the BoH and Washington State legislators.

5. Announcements

- a) Litter Prevention Outreach – Meeting scheduled for January 10 at Coupeville High School.
- b) LIWH Signs – 25 signs ordered for installation throughout the county. Island County Public Works is “picking up the tab” for installation and maintenance. There will be a meeting with county employees to make sure the signs are placed in highly visible areas that will also have the most impact on littering. The final litter assessment report is complete and will be useful in determining the location of the signs.
- c) Waste Voucher – Whitney will be meeting with Tim to “crunch the numbers” at upwards of 120% of the poverty threshold. Once the numbers are available, the information will be shared with Island County Solid Waste to see if the costs are feasible.

- d) Frequent Walker Challenge – Whitney and Valerie attended an assembly at Broad View to recognize the student participants. *Whidbey News-Times* included a picture of the students in a recent edition. Oak Harbor Elementary held an assembly last week. The organizing teacher will share pictures of the student participants with EHAT.
- e) Pocketbook of maps – EHAT can utilize existing maps to create a document that shares the health message that walking is good for you. It will aim to increase use of community trails among populations at risk for obesity, who engage in little or no physical activity, and people with limited resources. EHAT has access to the design template created for Clark County's *Walkaround Guide*.
- f) Friends of Freeland would like to see EHAT contract with Dan Burden, a nationally recognized walkability expert, to perform a walkability assessment in Island County. EHAT staff proposed that South Whidbey serve as the pilot site before expanding the event to other jurisdictions. A scope of work is due to Dan Burden with Walkable Communities, Inc., by January 8. The event is tentatively scheduled for April 30 and May 1.

6. 2nd Walkability Forum Agenda

- a) EHAT reviewed the draft agenda for the 2nd walkability forum. EHAT staff will revise the agenda in accordance with EHAT's comments and finalize the date, which will be dependent on the keynote and guest speakers' schedules.

7. Illegal Dumping And Illegal Littering/Walkability Workplans

- a) EHAT decided that updating the workplans would be delayed until after the 2nd Walkability Forum.
- b) EHAT discussed the reasons for not having separate subcommittees.
- c) The anti-littering campaign material be revisited. Leslie volunteered to take a look at the Keep Island County Klean (KICK) brochures. We will also be looking at the informational sheet passed out to rental management offices to make sure the information is still up to date.
- d) EHAT will receive credit for suggesting the idea of the litter action surveillance project. The budget was recently approved.

8. Training

- a) Active Communities: Planning and Public Health in the Built Environment – Spokane, March 9, 2007. Transportation, lodging, meals and registration fees (if applicable) will be covered for any EHAT member wishing to attend.
- b) Safe Routes to School training – Mount Vernon, January 2007. More information to follow for those EHAT members interested in attending.
- c) Short Course on Planning – EHAT staff will try to schedule during an EHAT meeting if it pertains to creating walkable communities.
- d) NW Regional Litter Coordination Meeting – Everett, January 23, 2007. Whitney will attend on behalf of EHAT.

9. Closing Business

- a) Jim Patton will contact Greenbank Farm about reserving the Jim Davis House for the EHAT meeting on February 8. January's meeting will be held at the NWFRFC.
- b) EHAT staff asked EHAT members to sign up for upcoming project activities and training opportunities that peak their interest. Please email Whitney or Valerie if you are interested in one (or more) of the areas listed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.