

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

Date: Thursday January 12, 2006
Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Location: North Whidbey Family Resource Center

Present: Phyllis Brett, Patty Folkestad, David Macys, Kristy Miller, Marie Piper, Linda Rhodes (Chair), Leslie Stevens (Vice Chair)

Guests: Katie Hicks

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

Excused: RoseAnn Alspektor, Lisa Clark, Mark Lathrop, Chris Markle, Jim Patton, Celine Servatius,

Unexcused: Reece Rose, Kevin Rio Kiper

Call to Order: Linda Rhodes EHAT Chair called the scheduled meeting of the Environmental Health Assessment Team to order at 5:40 pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Review Minutes from December 2005 Meeting

- a) Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Board of Health (BOH) Liaison Nomination and Vote

- a) Keith Higman discussed the role of the position, and the importance it plays in the EHAT process.
- b) Leslie Stevens was nominated for the position of BOH Liaison. Leslie accepted nomination. EHAT voted unanimously in favor, and Leslie accepted position as BOH Liaison.

3. Emerging Issues:

- a) Re-emerging: Hunting on Public Trails issue - Nothing new established; following existing state laws.
- b) New: Discussed EHAT member RoseAnn Alspektor's request to be a "liaison" to the Island County Tourism organization. Linda to contact her and inquire if she intends to be an active EHAT member, and clarify details of the request.

CHAB is looking for nominations for the Linda Lee Martens Health Hero Awards. They recognize people that are involved in the community in an outstanding way, and either directly or indirectly impact community health. Nominations are for individuals, institutional organizations, and youth.

4. Subcommittee Updates

- a) Walkability
 - 1. Action Plan is still in the process. Discussing partnerships with Public Works, Friends of Freeland, and other community groups. Discussed conducting the walking audit, public education, and participating in public events.

2. Freeland Update: Community forums scheduled on Jan. 18th & 25th. Received a grant to modify the main street to increase walking areas in town. Public Works hired a consultant (OTAK) to develop a plan for Freeland. The plan focuses on safety and the aesthetics of walking, and doesn't have a lot of emphasis on the health link between walking and the built environment.
 3. Community Forum: Discussed hosting a broad community forum for Walkability. Suggested that Dick Jackson be contacted to check his availability for participating. Linda to contact Friends of Freeland regarding partnering in sponsoring the forum. Discussed having Moses Lake officials speak at the forum. EHAT expressed the desire to have them contacted and confirmed immediately. Forum to be scheduled in April or May 2006.
 4. WSDOT Collaboration on Walking Audit: Discussed the offer from DOT to assist on the Walkability Assessment. Charlotte Claybrooke has offered to help with setting up the sampling, and presenting to the commissioners if needed. Agreed to express intent and not commitment until discussed further.
 5. Walkability Assessment Tool: Discussed the need to develop a process to evaluate Walkability in Island County. EHAT inquired on the timeline of the grant, and the ability to evaluate the implementation of strategies. Agreed to partner with the school districts to assess walkability around the schools. Suggested that we look at accessibility and not just walkability, and reword the assessment tool. Use connectivity to evaluate accomplishment of goals.
- b) Dumping: WSU Litter Assessment
1. Presentation by Keith of the WSU Litter Assessment. Quick overview of PACE, and how it is a science-based methodology. Data is used to evaluate if an issue is based on emotional or science.
 2. EHAT needed to conduct a survey for a baseline on litter in Island County. The WSU survey can be used as a baseline to measure success of implemented strategies. Sites were determined by where there were regular clean-up activities already occurring. A defined protocol was used at each site. Sites were located countywide – 4 Camano, 6 Central Whidbey, 5 North Whidbey, 7 South Whidbey.
 3. EHAT members request that they receive a full copy of the report, and that WSU present the complete survey at the next EHAT meeting. Staff will send out reports, and schedule presenters.
- c) Suggested that we go back to using “visuals” at the EHAT meeting, and have updated timelines available when discussing each issue.
- d) Subcommittee groups will schedule meetings by email.

5. Time did not allow EHAT to discuss the remainder of the items on the agenda.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.