

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

Date: Thursday March 9, 2006
Time: 5:30pm – 7:30pm
Location: North Whidbey Family Resource Center

Present: Patty Folkestad, David Macys, Chris Markle, Kristy Miller, Jim Patton, Marie Piper, Linda Rhodes (Chair),

Guests: Art Burke, Katie Hicks, Mike Schott, Carl Stephens

Staff Present: Nancy Farnsworth, Keith Higman, Tim McDonald

Excused: RoseAnn Alspektor, Phyllis Brett, Lisa Clark, Mark Lathrop, Celine Servatius, Leslie Stevens

Unexcused: Reece Rose, Kevin Rio Kiper

Call to Order: The scheduled meeting of the Environmental Health Assessment Team (EHAT) was called to order by chairperson Linda Rhodes at 5:37 pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Review Minutes from February 2006 Meeting and Guest Introductions

- a) Minutes were approved as submitted.
- b) Group introductions: EHAT members, staff, and visiting guests: Art Burke, Carl Stephens, Katie Hicks, Mike Schott

2. Staffing Update

- a) Tim gave the staffing update. Steve Hoffman is no longer working for Island County Health Department. The position is posted on the website, and applicants will be interviewed after the posting period. The program will be supported by Tim and Keith, and all inquiries about staff coverage can be directed to them.

3. BOH Update

- a) The BOH update was presented by EHAT liaison Jim Patton. The presentation went well and the Commissioners were briefed on the current action plans.
- b) The next Board of Health meeting is on March 20th at 1:15pm. The new EHAT applicants (Carl Stephens, Art Burke, Katie Hicks) will be presented to the BOH for approval.

4. Emerging Issues:

- a) Re-emerging: EHAT submitted a letter of support for the non-motorized trails plan. The Board of County Commissioners approved the plan.
- b) Discussion on the BOH updates. Suggested that the EHAT reports reflect all items discussed in the update, to ensure good documentation for the program.
- c) Reduced tired day discussed. Reviewed flyer and dates scheduled.
- d) New: Discussed EHAT attendance and the lack of member RSVP. Reminded EHAT members to excuse themselves when unable to attend the meeting. EHAT voted and agreed to ask the Steering Committee to discuss the attendance issue, and possibly construct a bylaw amendment to address EHAT member nonparticipation.

5. Bylaw Amendments

- a) Discussed the proposed Bylaw Amendment that was circulated 30 days prior for EHAT review. The proposed amendment will change membership from "Island County residents" to "Citizens who live or work in Island County."
- b) EHAT members agree that the meaning of "citizens" refers to someone who lives or works in Island County, and should not be interpreted as meaning a U.S. Citizen. Clarification was asked to be noted, since there have been past members who were not U.S. citizens.

- c) Voting on bylaw change:
 - 1. In-Favor: 11
 - 2. Not In-Favor: 1
 - 3. Did not vote: 1
- d) Bylaw amendment approved.

6. Subcommittee Briefing

- a) Illegal Dumping and Littering:
 - 1. Discussed the illegal dumping article in the Whidbey News Times newspaper. The article generated a lot of interest, and the Health Department received numerous calls. The process was started to remove the abandoned car from the park area.
 - 2. Subcommittee group is working on getting the Litter and It Will Hurt signs on roadways.
- b) Communications:
 - 1. The subcommittee group will pursue media coverage in all the local newspapers. They will look at South Whidbey and Camano Island area.
 - 2. Discussed the "Keep Island County Klean" brochure. Suggested to have it included in the free information bags handed out at the Whidbey marathon. Staff will work with subcommittee members to have the brochures printed, and available in time for the deadline.
 - 3. Staff will verify the dates for the Camano 101 class, and forward to subcommittee members.

7. Walkability Subcommittee Update - Spotlight

- a) Subcommittee update given by Linda Rhodes. Briefly discussed the Whidbey In Motion project on nutrition and physical activity. Recommendation made in the draft report, to host a community Walkability Conference.
- b) Reviewed the handout of the current action plan. Discussed supporting the non-motorized trails plan, identifying partners to participate and co-host a Walkability Conference, educate the public on health links with walkability, establishing an electronic kiosk of information on existing website, and completing the walkability assessment checklist.
- c) Reviewed the draft Walkability checklist and received feedback.

8. Closing Business

- a) Reminder: the Island County Health Hero award presentation is on April 4th.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:22pm.