

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

Date: Thursday, May 10, 2007 **Time:** 5:30pm – 7:30pm **Location:** Jim Davis House, Greenbank Farm

Present: Leslie Stevens (Acting Chair), Dave Macys, Jim Patton, Carl Stephens, Elaine Woods

Staff Present: Keith Higman, Whitney Webber, Valerie Matazzoni

Absent: Art Burke, Katie Hicks, RoseAnn Alspektor, Phyllis Brett, Lisa Clark, Chris Markle, Marie Piper, Celine Servatius, Patty Folkestad, Kevin Rio Kiper, Reece Rose, Tim McDonald,

Call to Order: Leslie Stevens called the Environmental Health Assessment Team (EHAT) meeting to order at 5:45pm.

Agenda Items:

1. Reviewed minutes from April 2007 meeting

- a) Minutes approved as submitted.

2. Trail mapping and signing

- a) We have ordered the trails signs and anticipate their delivery in June.
- b) We contracted with Barb Lyter of Lyter Photography/Design to design the Z-Card[®] pocket guides.
- c) EHAT reviewed the first comp of the Z-Cards[®]. EHAT's input will be shared with Ms. Lyter.
- d) Mike Riley from the Island County Trails Council has graciously volunteered to construct the 8 kiosks for the project. His generous offer is saving approximately \$3,000.
- e) Whitney thanked everyone for their time and energy that has been expended on this project so far. Much more work will be required to finish the project when it comes time to actually install the trail sign intersection markers.
- f) The next big part of the project coming up other than sign installation is brainstorming ideas on how and where the Z-Cards[®] will be distributed. Please share your ideas with EHAT staff.

3. Officer elections

- a) By a unanimous decision, Leslie Stevens was voted in as the next EHAT Chair. We are looking forward to an exciting future with Leslie at the helm.
- b) A tight race was waged for the Vice Chair position. By a very narrow margin, Celine Servatius was selected as the next Vice Chair.
- c) Special thanks to the EHAT members not able to attend the meeting that submitted absentee ballots.

4. Global warming presentation

- a) A joint EHAT/CHAB presentation on global warming will be held on EHAT's regularly scheduled meeting in July. The presentation is scheduled for Thursday, July 12, at 5:30 PM at the NWFRC in Oak Harbor.
- b) Dave Macys will check with CHAB for any mutual areas of interest to work up an agenda (i.e. trails, physical activity, and chronic disease).
- c) Dave and Leslie will decide between themselves who is going to chair the event.

5. Funding opportunities

- a) Whitney Webber gave an overview of the funding opportunities that have been applied for:
 - i. Conservation Futures Funding – Up to \$5,000 to assist with trail infrastructure improvements at Four Springs Lake Preserve. Whitney will be giving a public presentation at the Four Springs Lake House at 6:30 PM on May 17.
 - ii. SCOG (Skagit Council of Governments) – Up to \$5,000 to assist with the trail signing and mapping project for Coupeville and Central Whidbey. **This funding source has been approved.**

- iii. Washington Health Foundation, Healthiest State in the Nation - \$50,000 to encourage Island County residents to engage in healthy habits. The application has been submitted. We will be notified of the Foundation's decision in June.
- iv. Take Action - \$2,000 to \$5,000 to assist with an intergenerational Walking School Bus program at Oak Harbor Elementary. The program is a collaborative partnership with the Oak Harbor Senior Center, City of Oak Harbor Planning and Engineering Departments, EHAT, Island County Public Health, and local law enforcement. The application has been submitted
- v. EPA CARE - \$150,000 to \$300,000 to sustain the current illegal dumping and littering efforts by utilizing EPA's WasteWise and Make a Difference campaigns and revitalizing the Keep Island County Klean campaign. The application has been submitted.
- vi. CDC Healthy Communities – Up to \$135,000. We will need letters of continued support from all EHAT members. We will also need letters of support from many, varied community partners. Whitney will be sending a sample letter for EHAT members to use as a template. Elaine offered to write a letter. The application is due May 22.

6. Update on recent events

- a) Earth Day celebration at NAS Whidbey Island brought Celine Servatius, Katie Hicks, and Dave Macys to support the EHAT booth. We met some local groups interested in illegal dumping and made contact with the NW Clean Air Agency with the hopes of collaborating on Safe Routes to School projects.
- b) South Whidbey Walkable Communities workshops were held April 30 and May 1. The workshops were attended by 60 to 70 people. There was surprisingly large attendance in Clinton; in comparison, a surprisingly small attendance in Freeland and Bayview. The recommendations for the communities will be formally presented to the public at the second walkability forum.

7. Upcoming events

- a) Walking School Bus Planning Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 27, at 1:00 PM at the Oak Harbor Senior Center.
 - i. Partnerships have been formed.
 - ii. The hard sell for the program will be attracting parent volunteers.
 - iii. The focus at this point will be to get the program started and then work to make it self-sustaining with support from the newly formed partners.
 - iv. Keith Higman will provide information from the State Board of Health regarding the latest on physical activity and schools.
 - v. Leslie Stevens shared her enthusiasm for the program.

8. Miscellaneous

- a) Leslie Stevens will work on newspaper articles for publication in the local newspapers. Dave Macys has agreed to assist Leslie with the article(s).
- b) The group reviewed the EHAT Quarterly Newsletter.
- c) Part of the reporting back to the CDC on the success of the project is posting our "products" on the website. The web pages have been developed and are currently in review. We should be ready to "go live" with the updated website by the beginning of June.
- d) It was brought up that EHAT needs more public exposure to share our successes and garner interest in their projects. It was suggested that EHAT gets involved with the Whidbey Camano Land Trust and Whidbey/Camano 101 as a way to advertise the team.

9. Second walkability forum

- a) We considered several dates for holding the second forum. Two important items to consider when scheduling are: 1) What is staff's focus at time of forum, 2) Are most of the key people going to be available.
- b) If the forum is delayed until September, it can still be included as part of the deliverables in the report to the CDC.

10. Closing business

- a) Jim Patton will continue to serve as Board of Health liaison.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.