



**Nisqually River Council  
Citizens Advisory Committee  
DRAFT Meeting Minutes  
July 1, 2010  
Nisqually Natural Resources Office**

**CAC Members Present:** *David Hymel, Steve Thompson, Judy Krill, Bob & Marjorie Smith, Paul Crosetto (on telephone)*

**Staff Present:** Sara Scott (NRC)

**1. Introductions, Minutes, Agenda Approval**

David called the meeting to order, and the May minutes and the agenda were approved.

**2. Nisqually Good Neighbor Handbook**

David Hymel reported that the Foundation is working to produce a booklet similar to the Good Neighbor Handbook produced in the Methow Valley ([www.methowconservancy.org/gnh.html](http://www.methowconservancy.org/gnh.html)). Cate O'dahl, with ESP Services, is coordinating the project and 16,000 copies will be printed. The project is funded by the EPA Targeted Watershed Grant.

The handbook will include the following sections:

Nisqually & Community overview, Natural Resources, Recreation, Fish & Wildlife, Transportation, Hydro (flooding and mud flows). Information will also be included on these specific topics: Building and Development, Water, Riparian & Wetland Management, Noxious Weeds, Stormwater & LID, Animal Management, Forestry & Agriculture, Land Conservancy, and Resources

Committee suggestions included: a list of parks. A list of community events, with website links. A list of volunteer opportunities and/or local non-profit groups.

**3. Current CAC Status – Needs & Opportunities**

Sara expressed concern about the lack of attendance and activity within the CAC. David shared that the CAC historically had excellent attendance, with 20+ people meeting regularly at the Prairie Park Motel. In the past, the CAC would take on a few projects from the Stewardship Plan each year.

David will write up a summary to ask the CAC for input regarding the watershed project priorities.

There is a sense that the CAC lost its momentum when it was divided into subcommittees (Community, Economy, Environment) and the meeting schedule was changed to quarterly.

It was suggested that project-oriented committees may be more viable. The CAC and NRC leadership will continue to explore these issues and work to re-invigorate the CAC.

There was discussion about the Puget Sound Action Team, which provides a framework for priorities but doesn't provide funding.

Judy noted that the Puget Sound Partnership is looking at a regional "In lieu of mitigation" fund, and suggested that this may be something the NRC could get involved with. There will be a meeting at the Thurston County Courthouse on July 29.

#### **4. Good of the Order**

Sara reported the NRC staffing funds are secure through June 2011, and the Tribe has generously offered to provide funding for NRC staffing through December 2011, if needed. The Council and Foundation are working to ensure that current funding is not cut, and are also looking at other potential funding sources.

Sara also noted that the NWSP updates are underway and the revised draft will be presented to the CAC for comment. There will likely be opportunities for the CAC to help develop the 3 year work plans.

David received notice today at the state legislature authorized 8 million dollars to be made available to individual NPDES communities. \$70,000 of this will be available through a "2011 DOE NPDES Capacity Building Grants" for Phase II communities. In counties, projects would have to be in unincorporated areas.

David suggested that the CAC can suggest ways for the counties to utilize the funds, i.e. demonstration areas, rain gardens. Thurston County, Pierce County, Lewis County, Lacey, DuPont, WA DOT, and others should receive this funding.

Friends of the Hylebos received \$18K from the Puget Soundkeeper Alliance for work in the City of Tacoma (<http://pugetsoundkeeper.org/>). There is potential for the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation to provide funds for projects in the Nisqually watershed.

Judy reported that the city of DuPont did not support the instillation of the beaver deceivers. The \$25,000 is still available, and needs to be spent by September. The saltwater estuary could be a project site – possibly rerouting the trail that crosses the saltwater mash. The Sequatchew Watershed Group and other allies may work to engage DuPont and help them to meet the obligations of their stormwater permit.

#### **5. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

***The next CAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.***