



**Nisqually River Council
Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2012
Steve Pruitt's House,
41525 Mountain Highway E, Eatonville**

CAC Members Present: *Karelina Resnick, Steve Pruitt, Jean Shaffer, Bob and Marjorie Smith, and Karl Rotter*
Staff Present: *Ashley Von Essen*

Welcome, Introductions, and For the Good of the Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

There was a short discussion on the meeting minutes. Jean had a question about the CCC program and how it would pertain to small forestland owners, a version of the assessment to be developed in the future. Since the program will begin with residential homeowners/renters, specifics have not yet been developed for other property options.

The minutes were accepted and approved as written, as was this evening's agenda.

Sub-Committee Reports

- **Forest Buffer Committee —**

Nominations were accepted throughout this month for land that could potentially be used as part of a forest buffer zone in the Nisqually Watershed. Unfortunately, no nominations were submitted. The Nisqually Land Trust has been focusing on submitting their application for accreditation and was unable to devote any time to this project.

Steve would like to move that the committee proceed with another aspect of the project. Since there is no rush to develop a proposal, the committee should to look establish a strategic plan for forestry and creating a forest buffer zone in the watershed. Steve would like to sit down with Bryan Bowden and David Troutt in order to begin this discussion. Once a plan can be developed, the committee will look to schedule conversations with large corporate forest owners about keeping forests in forestry throughout the Nisqually. After property is logged, instead of selling the parcels to real estate companies looking to build upon the land, the hope is that they can be convinced to sell or donate the lands to the committee/watershed to be incorporated into the buffer zone. Steve believes if the plan is bold enough and enough support can be gained, this plan could be put in place as a watershed-wide strategy. Having the support of David Troutt, can aid the committee in developing relations with the forest industry, politicians, and local organizations.

Public benefits of this project would include, but are not limited to, environmental values, industrial values, and ecosystem service values. These areas could eventually be use for recreation, including

public access to be enjoyed by everyone. It would also keep logging out of neighborhoods, protect salmon and water stores, and would be compatible for the tourism industry as well.

The buffer zone will not necessarily be a no logging zone, but rather a no development zone, an ecosystem services zone, or a recreational zone. The overall goal is to keep development out. Also, keeping the lands in forestry taxation will mean taxes will remain relatively low.

The motion was unanimously accepted and seconded. Steve will set up an initial meeting with Bryan Bowden, David Troutt, and Karelina. If David likes the idea, Steve will hold a Forest Buffer Committee meeting to move forward on the project, to which everyone will be invited to attend.

- **Citizen Conservation Certifications –**

A general template was sent to CAC members to provide guidance when researching their assigned topics from the August meeting. The final assessment will be 2 pages and include a checklist that will attract people to the website in search of resources that may aid them in making more sustainable choices. At this time, attendees went over their individual assignments.

- Jean – Energy: Jean researched her topic and compiled a list of resources she found on the Internet. She will email these resources to Ashley. Jean is also interested in looking into food preparation and sustainability. She will begin researching this topic to add to the checklist.
- Steve – Waste and Recycling: Steve has developed a list of ideas for people to follow when assessing the waste they produce. The process asks people to identify waste that comes in, recognize their output, and take a closer look at the actions how the output is processed.
- Bob and Marjorie – Animals: Marjorie was unsure which direction to move in. They will look into residential properties and the animals that reside in residential habitats.
- Mary – Flora: Mary made a list of plant resources, including links to specific websites, as well as ideas that may help residences on their journey towards living sustainably.
- Karelina – Air: Karelina compiled a number of resources and facts for people to refer that pertain to air quality and pollution prevention.

Jean noted that YouTube is a valuable resource when looking for tips on how to be more sustainable. She also mentioned another area that may be helpful is health, such as avoiding prescriptions and using more natural products. Karl mentioned that green building could also be another component to work towards.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 16, 2012
Nisqually Tribe's Natural Resources Office**