

**NRC CAC Meeting
August 10, 2021
6:00-8:00pm
Virtual Meeting**

Present: Paula Holroyde, Howard Glastetter, Martin McCallum, Joanne Park

1. Welcome and Introductions

It was a very small group attending but Howard decided to start the meeting at 6:07pm.

2. Issue Update

Howard shared an update about the gravel mine issue. Per Kevin Hansen, Holroyd's Gravel Mine is making strong efforts to get a permit to mine down to 150 feet below the current level. There is gravel not just on the surface but down 100 feet. There are a lot of implications to mining down as there are underground aquifers, which are contiguous to high pressure water. This is near a lake and artesian springs that can be negatively impacted. There are a lot of things to think about in terms of this issue. Howard wrote a letter and sent it to county commissioners. David Troutt was also included in the email and he responded to let Howard know that the tribe had made efforts of their own. There is a lot of concern and Howard has done his part so he is just waiting on responses at this point.

There was a question of whether or not this would be brought up at NRC meetings. Howard has some aerial photos of the gravel pit including a photo of when it was flooded. Howard sent a letter out to a few CAC members as he does not have everyone's email addresses. Joanne offered to send the letter and aerial photos to all CAC members after putting photos into a PDF. This way, Phyllis might be able to share this with the League of Women Voters as well.

The gravel mine was supposed to go away when the pit was mined out but that may not be in the intention. Of course, they were never supposed to have an asphalt plant there but they got there anyway. Somebody came up with the idea about what can be made in a gravel mine and the idea of an asphalt plant was suggested. They said they would not be allowed to use RAP but they eventually brought it in. Today, there is about 67,000 cubic yards of virgin asphalt sitting there now. It is about 35 feet high and 30 feet wide. It is unfortunate that the county never figured out what they were doing.

Paula suggested Howard talk to a local reporter about this issue to get the information out there for others to be aware.

Howard wanted to make a comment from the last NRC Meeting that what FEMA is doing with their study appears to him that they are ignoring the Alder Lake Dam. He made comments that the dam could be run more safely by Tacoma Power. There was a complaint made to FERC about the dam and it was accepted. He just wanted to be

clear that he was not against anyone making a profit but what was said was a bit of stretch concerning what Howard had been attempting with Tacoma Power. They allowed the dam to raise to 1 foot capacity and they knew it was going to happen. Then in February 2020, it was raised to 2 foot capacity. Eventually, they had no choice but to flood the valley to protect the dam. Howard just wanted to make clear that Tacoma Power could simply do a better job. A lot of these concerns come from Howard caring about the valley and wanting to keep his home safe.

Some members shared having the opportunity to see Mcallister Springs and watching the water bubble up. It was very special to see.

3. For the Good of the Order

Martin wanted to let everyone know that he had a chance to attend the South Sound Sierra Club Picnic at Priest Point Park. It was well attended and it had significant representation particularly of Olympia City Council candidates. There was good opportunity to see there were some great candidates who had good environmental experience and knowledge.

He had learned about an initiative called the Sunflower Initiative where an organization has been selected and under contract to install solar panels on the Olympia Farmers Market. If you donate 1-2 units that make up 1 solar panel, the energy generated would be for the Olympia Farmers Market and the other revenue generated in addition to the comes back to the donor. They can also elect a non-profit organization for that to go to. Martin will be purchasing 2 units that make up 1 solar panel and will be choosing the Capital Land Trust for the additional revenue to go to.

There is an opportunity to attend the FEMA flood insurance rate plan release meeting tomorrow, August 11th at 1pm. Joanne will forward the invitation to anyone who is interested in attending.

4. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 6:43pm.