

Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board
August 16th, 2005 Meeting
7-9 P.M. Poplars Room
Silverdale Community Center

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Present: Jane Wentworth, Joanne Weber, Joyce Komac, John Collins, Wendy McClure, Dana Coggon, Toni Probert, Peg Tillery.

I. Introductions & Public Comments: No introductions

Peg announced she would be writing a Tansy ragwort article in her next column of "Dig This". Jane requested Peg to email her a copy.

II. Minutes:

Jane asked if there were any additions or corrections to the July minutes. None were made. Joyce motioned to approve the minutes. Joanne seconded.

III. Announcements & Board Comments:

Jane presented the Memorandum of Approval, the 2005 Weed Board policies and bylaws, received from Jan Koske, Kitsap County Volunteer Coordinator.

Joanne received an email from a scout troop, asking if they could volunteer their assistance with a clean-up of Anderson Landing. They are working on their 50-Miler Patch. Joanne has organized a work party with them for Monday, August 19th.

Dana stated that on Tuesday, August 30, she would be assisting a work party from the Kitsap County Juvenile Detection Department at Anderson Landing. Jane asked if Dana needed a waiver from the county for liability coverage. Peg thought through WSU, Dana was covered.

IV. WSU Extension Report:

Peg announced Toni was lining up volunteers from the Weed Advisor list and board, for the WSU Extension tent at the Kitsap County Fair. Dana reported we might be in need of more volunteers. Toni will continue to recruit volunteers.

V. Adopt-a-Road Program:

Joyce stated the list of areas available to adopt, have changed since the last meeting. Jane was reluctant to start any other new projects this first year. The board discussed the issue of the Adopt-a-Road program being more about litter, not weed removal. Wendy stated she did not feel that involvement with the program was appropriate at anytime for the noxious weed program. The board agreed that are better ways for the public to become aware of the noxious weed program. John recommended we could support these types of groups by supplying education information on noxious weeds in the sections that are being cleaned up by the Adopt-a-Road Program. Joyce thought the Board might want to focus more on county roadways as opposed to state roads. John stated the Board should also provide information to the various municipalities in the Kitsap County area. Wendy asked Jane, if the board could create a comprehensive strategy, for educating the public. Dana requested the Board brainstorm a list of groups and organizations that they would like her to make presentations to. Peg suggested groups like Rotary, Kiwanis. John recommended doing something with the Conservation district.

VI: Schold Farm Update:

Dana is sending a letter to Robbyn Myers, Title Planner II, Environmental Review, Kitsap County, Department of Community Development(DCD), in regards to the existing noxious weed problems. The letter will highlight the control plan previously provided to DCD and recommend that control actions be taken next year. Jane and John suggested referring to the RCW 17.10 in the letter. This letter is a response to Memorandum for Record, prepared by Scott and Peggy Hall and submitted to the Board during the July 2005 board meeting. Copies of the letter will be sent to: Erick Baker and Jim Bolger with the DCD, The Kitsap County Commissioners, Scott and Peggy Hall, & the Kitsap County Noxious Weed Board.

VII: Long Lake:

Dana thanked Joanne, Joyce, and Wendy for attending the Long Lake Funding meeting. Dana stated that the meeting was very informative and successful. The Department of Ecology, the entity overseeing the grant monies, was represented, along with Commissioner Jan Angel, The Citizens for Long Lake have already done much of the preparations for getting this project off the ground. Issues of concern for the weed board is that the grant funding is done by reimbursement. The concern is that Kitsap County, or the Weed Board, might have to pay the contractor for the work, and then get reimbursed by the Department of Ecology. This concern and others will be address at future meetings.

The citizens will do a "scope of work" plan by the end of August 2005 so that treatments can begin in 2006. Tetra-Tech has already prepared a study of the lake and suggested recommendations for improving the condition of Long Lake.

Much more information will be provided to the board as the project moves forward.

It was asked if the Board needs to give Dana the authority to release the funds when needed. Jane asked for a motion to authorize Dana to release funds. Wendy motioned, Joyce and John seconded the motion.

It was asked how Dana would be paid for her time. Dana noted that it will probably be an hour-by-hour charge to the grant fund.

VIII: Program Coordinator Report:

Field Report:

Provided to the Board prior to the meeting

Total number of contacts for the month of August: Emails 20, phones 40, educational materials 8.

Road miles traveled: 185

Site Inspections: 4

Presentations & Events:

Meeting with Jan Angel, County Commissioner about Long Lake

Meeting with IS to change weed assessment information in county computers

Meeting with Long Lake Citizens Group to review ecology information

Phone meetings with Ken Spohn-Citizens of Long Lake

Meeting with Cameron Snow about possible weed DVD-set meeting for September

Meeting with Bruce-State Fisheries, about Long Lake and control options

Presentation at MG workshop

Weed pull at Schold property

County Park event at South Kitsap Park-prepared scavenger hunt for noxious weed-youth oriented.

EKOSYSTEMS: More training with Tracy from Paladin. Sent information on the project to Kitsap County to firm up the funding.

FAIR: Preparing a display with the theme: Traveling Weeds. Will have bookmarks, weed list, flyers, brochures, etc., for the public.

General items to report: Dana received the "Black Book" order. She plans to take some to fair. They will be given to interested citizens.

IX. Policy Discussions:

A. Herbicide Liability: Department of Ecology has drafted a waiver for applicators of herbicides to use. John stated he was not sure how valid this indemnity really is. Dana should just give knowledgeable recommendations and emphasize the public to READ THE LABEL for instructions how to use. The label is the LAW. Dana will continue to document contacts conversations.

B. Tansy ragwort: Dana asked the Board to consider this weed and possibly knotweed as a high priority for this year in Kitsap County. Dana noted "this is one of the worst years in regards to the growth of these weeds". It was agreed among the members, these are the targeted weeds right now. The Board noted that "We need to get the information out to the public". It was suggested that we start with local newspaper articles, and broadcasts on "Inside Bremerton". It was also noted that we should have plants species at the fair to display.

X. Other Items:

A. Follow up from Pierce County Board meeting. In regards to lending out equipment for weed control, Dana stated that Pierce Co. no longer lends out equipment due to liability issues. John wondered if we could see if another department of the County, possibly Conservation District would have equipment we could recommend for public use. Dana will check on this and report back at the next meeting.

B. Dana stated that Steve McGonigal of the Washington State Weed Board, informed her of possible removal of funds from the Title II program. These funds have been used by numerous weed control programs for control noxious weeds on state and federal lands. It was recommended that the Board review the Title II document that Dana provided, and then send a letter of concern to Senator Norm Dicks requesting the funding be maintained . John motioned for Dana to draft a letter, Joyce seconded. Dana will report back at the September meeting.

C. Dana suggested the Board might want to look into using electronic signatures for various materials where signatures are needed. It was noted that sometimes it is hard to get everyone together in a timely manner for signatures. There would be documents where original signatures are required, but the electronic signatures would come in handy for other uses. Dana will check to see if this would be OK from the county standpoint.

D. The Weed Warriors of Bainbridge Island had requested Dana to maintain their email. Jane stated that it is not the Weed Board, or Dana's responsibility to maintain volunteer groups emails. Dana will respond back to the Warriors letting them know this is not a function that the County Weed Board can offer.

E. Discussion arose in regards to when each member's term is completed, when and how to reapply for a board position, etc. It was recommended that Jane contact Jan Koske, K.C. Volunteer Coordinator for this information and report back at the September meeting.

F. Jane reminded the Board, the September meeting is re-scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 27th not the 20th.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M. Minutes respectfully submitted by Toni Probert, Program Assistant.