

Kitsap County Noxious Weed Control Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 15, 2005

I. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M.

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

II. Corrections were made to the October minutes. The minutes which were distributed to the members of the Board, were not the final corrected minutes taken by Wendy. Verbal corrections were submitted to the Board. Jane motioned to accept the October minutes with corrections, and Joanne seconded the motion. A corrected version will be emailed to the Board.

III. Announcements:

Joanne attended the Critical Area Ordinance (CAO) meeting on November 14th and stated the Kitsap Alliance Of Property Owners were well represented at the meeting. Jane thought it would be advisable to have a letter written to the editor of the The Sun clarifying Kitsap County's noxious weed issues. Wendy thought explaining the reason for property owners being good stewards of the land was important. Joanne will write the letter, and have Jane proof it.

Jane announced there was a good article written in the Seattle P.I in regards to weeds taking over our forestlands. She will bring it to the next meeting. Jane sent a letter to the City of Bainbridge Island regarding the Urban Forester position.

Dana stated "Gorse" has been identified on Bainbridge Island at the Johnson Farm. Frank Anderson (citizen) offered to help to start the management process. Then the City of Bainbridge or the Trust for Working Landscapes will be responsible to maintain the site in the future.

IV. WSU Report:

Peg interviewed two groups of candidates for the 2006 Master Gardener class on November 14th. Dana and Toni will be attending the class, also. Two of the candidates are from the Weed Warriors of Bainbridge Island.

Peg announced the Kitsap County Farm and Food Alliance has changed its name to Kitsap County Community and Agriculture Alliance. They will be doing agricultural education and outreach to Kitsap County citizens. Dana and Peg spoke at the Small Sustainable Acreage Farming class on November 9th. Dana spoke at the Washington State Landscapers and Maintenance seminar on November 9th about noxious weed identification and control. Peg noted that there was discussion at the Sustainable agriculture class about the use of hogs for weed control. Joyce commented on information she had heard about using hogs for weed control

V. Rules and Regulations-Organizational Meetings:

1. Jane suggested the only changes that need to occur each year in the Noxious Weed Board's Rules and Regulations are likely to be the current county noxious weed list adopted annually by the Kitsap Noxious Weed Board. Verbiage would be added to the existing Rules and Regulations to address these changes. Jane recommended the Rules and Regulations to update the county weed list annually leaving the rest of the document unchanged. Joyce made the motion, Joanne seconded. A motion was made to annually amend only the County weed list in the rules and regulations section 11(KITSAP COUNTY NOXIOUS WEED LIST), without revising and printing the rest of the Rules document unless necessary.

2. Meeting dates for 2007 were discussed and will be held the 3rd Thursday of the month at Silverdale Community Center-Poplar Room. Toni will request the reservations with the county. If Poplar room is not available, 2nd choice I- Coho at Silverdale Community Center, 3rd choice-Eagles Nest.

3. New officers for the year 2006 were appointed. Jane Wentworth was appointed as Board Chairperson, John Collins as Vice-Chairperson, and Wendy McClure as Secretary. Toni Probert, Noxious Weed Program Assistant was designated as the board minute taker.

4. Jane recommended the Board discuss a draft plan for 2006 stating Goals and Objectives. Joanne suggested a type of status report of noxious weeds on County properties, be readily made available for the public to review. Discussion followed with how we could accomplish this task. General consensus was that it would be hard to keep this information current, with activity taking place on the various county properties. Jane suggested we try to work with the County on creating management plans for noxious weed control on their properties, John agreed..

Joanne gave an example of a citizen who questions why they should control their weeds when the County doesn't seem to control theirs. Wendy recommended that Joanne invite the citizen to our next meeting, and the citizen could ask questions during the Public Comments section of the agenda. Dana suggested we target a minimum of 3 County properties to create weed management plans for in 2006. We could "assist" the County, along with any property owner with completing a management plan for weed control. The Board could design a template for the management plans, with adjustments for each individual property.

5. Dana handed out maps of the County with area weed infestations. Dana noted that "this is a sampling of weed locations", recorded from 2005 weed surveys. Wendy noted that Clear Creek Trail is a prime location for visibility of noxious weeds on County property. She felt this could be an area to target for education.

Jane noted Spartina is spreading throughout the County. Joyce stated this weed is being worked on by the Department of Agriculture.

The Board will use the provided maps as a rough bench mark for where weeds were noted in 2005 and where we should focus control of specific species for 2006.

6. Dana wondered about the knotweed in the County. Possibly this should be a high priority weed to look at controlling in 2006. Wendy wondered if we could connect with the tribes in Kitsap County, to inform them of what the noxious weed program is about and possibly speak to them.

7. Dana stated the tansy was very abundant this year. One of the most prolific years, and in some areas it is blooming again. It will not be eradicated, but hopefully we could target for control the "pasture" lands in the county where livestock graze. Dana would like the Board to discuss "buffer" areas for control around "sensitive" areas.

8. Joyce stated the County has been mowing this summer and fall along the roadways. There are new crew members who will be going through training soon to better identify weeds. We will supply information on the noxious weeds in the County for the crew members.

After discussion, Jane suggested these tentative goals for 2006.

- 1) Dana will do a road Survey with each Weed Board member
- 2) Priority will be given to Hogweed locations in the County.

Log who owns these properties and contact must be made with the property owner

- 3) A draft management plan for the County to utilize for weed control will be provided to DCD, Parks, and SWWM
- 4) An educational effort should focus on the Clear Creek Trail. This should highlight areas along with trails where noxious weeds are located and what is being done to prevent their spread.
- 5) Focus on identifying and mapping Knotweed in the County. Also work on getting land owners to work to control the knotweed
- 6) Contact County commissioners about promoting a “Noxious Weed Week”, late spring/early summer
- 7) Target more nurseries, providing educational material about noxious weeds
- 8) Provide more education to the public (public outreach, workshops, seminars, etc.)
- 9) Draft revised Dirty Dozen List. Suggested weeds to add were English Ivy, Fragrant water Lily. Maybe remove Spartina, Canada Thistle, Rush Skeleton, Reed Canary Grass. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting and will possibly be finalized at January 2006 meeting.

VIII Program Coordinator Report:

Dana has completed the Memorandum of Agreement with Long Lake Citizens, Department of Ecology and Kitsap County Commissioners.

There was a work party at Anderson Landing with the Juvenile Detection Crew.

She spoke at the Washington State Landscapers and Maintenance Workshop on Nov. 9th

She spoke at the Small Sustainable Acreage Farming class.

She Attended the Poulsbo Tree Board. They are proposing a Noxious Weed person for the City of Poulsbo.

Up coming events:

May be attending the Fish Park work party on November 20th.

Dana will work on the poster for the Anderson Landing kiosk.

She will survey knotweed in Indianola.

IX. Other Items:

It was suggested to bring “munchies” to the December meeting in honor of the holidays. The Board agreed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:18 P.M.