

Skagit County Conservation Futures Program Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
June 13, 2017

Members Attendance

Scott DeGraw	Wendy Pare	Mike Hulbert
Owen Peth	Steve Sakuma	Andrea Xaver

Members Absent

Keith Wiggers

Staff and Others in Attendance

Kara Symonds, Skagit County Public Works

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 AM

Member Update

Kara shared that she attended an EDASC meeting on June 7. Steve was also in attendance. The meeting was titled Skagit County Agriculture, but ended up covering all EDASC "clusters," such as manufacturing, technology, tourism, etc. Some covered topics included a winter birds festival and dike trails, and the issues around the dike trails with access and trespass. Mike added that genetic trespass is also an issue when a crop cross contaminates another. Vegetable seed growers have by-laws that, for example, outlines that cabbage must be grown greater than five miles away from a kale crop.

Meeting Minutes

Andrea moved to approve the 5/9/17 meeting summary; Owen seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Newspaper Insert

Kara shared that she has received a Norm Nelson Inc. testimonial and some new pictures to use in the insert. The edits were passed to the County's Communications Coordinator and there will be an updated version to review at the August meeting.

Miller Amendment

Kara discussed a recent meeting with the USDA involving the Miller amendment. Currently, the USDA is awaiting a legal opinion on the interpretation of the subdivision clause.

Noxious Weeds

Owen inquired about the County's noxious weed program. Kara sent him contact information for Joseph Shea, the County's noxious weeds coordinator. Joseph can be reached at (360) 416-1467 for anyone who needs to contact him.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 AM