

## Community Engagement Committee

Skagit Watershed Council May 30st, 2023, 1-3 pm

### Minutes

Present: Holly Henderson + Lucy DeGrace (SFEG), Cindy Pierce (SCD), Jeff O (SAS), Gabby Jacunski + Stacy Dahl (SLT), Holli Watne (SWC), Melissa Ciesielski (SITC), Michelle Quast (ECY) , Kevin Tate (Skagit PUD), Amanda Colbert (TSSS)

(\***Bold** indicates action items)

1. We approved the April 2023 notes.
2. Roundtable of updates (some emailed in by absent members)
  - a. From Department of Ecology (ECY)
    - i. Scott is no longer the Skagit TMDL Lead. He will be focusing on Skagit Relicensing project. A new Skagit TMDL lead will be hired.
    - ii. Planning on doing a summer push on the content about warm waters in Skagit tributaries. Michelle has a bunch of nice flyers on cardstock with QR codes to the content she worked on. She'd happily make that available for any events we'll be tabling at this summer.
  - b. From Museum of Northwest Art (MoNA) –
    - i. There are a few spots left in our [Art & Science Camp \(July 17-21\)!](#) Join us to explore what makes our community special through the intersections of art, culture and science. This day camp hosted by the Museum of Northwest Art and Padilla Bay Reserve includes hands-on art and science activities, as well as games, songs and stories for a fun-filled week!
    - ii. We're hiring for a new position: MoNA's [Learning & Engagement Coordinator!](#) This position offers the opportunity to work in a highly creative environment while honing the administrative and communication skills that are key in the fields of museum education and arts administration in La Conner, Washington. Please find the JD attached and feel free to spread the word among your network!
    - iii. Lending library

- c. From Skagit Audubon Society (SAS) - Jeff lead birding presentations for Children of the Valley (COV) locations in MV and SW. The younger kids did well, but upper elementary students were a little out of hand. on group management and pacing for distracted students. **\*We will add a discussion of behavior management techniques to our next meeting's agenda.**
- d. From Skagit Conservation District (SCD)
  - i. Upcoming [Pasture Walk Series](#) where farmers can learn from other farmers about their conservation work with SCD.
  - ii. Upcoming [Forestry Education training](#) with help from PEI.
  - iii. Tabling at Tarmar on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30.
  - iv. Skagit County Fair with WSU extension Aug 9-12
  - v. Will be at CYAD and Fidalgo Bay Day.
- e. From Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG)
  - i. Youth Conservation Tour was really fun. Great weather.
  - ii. Gearing up for trivia night on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm at North Sound Brewing.
  - iii. MV Farmers market on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Bringing in orca theme in honor of [Orca Action Month](#), but not an official event
  - iv. 4 new interpretive signs are getting ready for installation at Presentin Park
- f. From Skagit Land Trust (SLT)
  - i. Will Kulsian street fair on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. Finished Utopia school program.
  - iii. Working with Upper Skagit Library to print out a story to go along the trail at the Marblemount Conservation Area. "Oh Tree" is the book. Connects to their reading program.
  - iv. Doing CYAD
  - v. June 15<sup>th</sup> is [Skagit Summer Social \(fund raiser event\)](#). Would love a few more volunteers and help getting the word out.
- g. From Skagit Watershed Council (SWC)
  - i. Not doing CYAD this year. Instead, Holli will be supporting a day-long Technical Review Committee meeting.

- ii. Running summer program(s) for Boys and Girls Club(s). They are looking for more programs. Here are some dates that will work well for their summer themese:
  - 1. July 3-7, theme "The Pacific Northwest"
  - 2. July 17-20: Sustainability & the Environment
  - 3. August 14-18: Sands & Shores
- iii. Holli was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Skagit Community Foundation to support her luminary arts program this winter. This is her second time applying, but first time getting an award.
- h. From Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (SITC) – We will be doing a workshop on our Between Two Worlds Curriculum at the NMEA conference on Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>.
- i. From The Salish Sea School (TSSS)
  - i. Added "[Family Programs](#)" to website, offering our first two family overnight camps this summer at Quaker Cove Retreat Center on Similk Bay (Anacortes).
  - ii. Lots of plankton and wildlife viewing field trips lately
  - iii. Our first Adult overnight coming up next week and then all of our summer programs kick off June 19th! Prepping is fast and furious right now.
- j. From Wayne Watne (formerly of WDFW) - I have excepted a job as a fisheries biologist with Herrera consulting out of their Bellingham office
- k. From Pete Haase
  - i. updates from Skagit Marine Resources and the Fidalgo Bay Aquatic Reserve Citizen stewardship Committee
    - 1. Intertidal Monitoring in Fidalgo Bay was done in May with several volunteers and students from Anacortes High School Enviro Sci class.
    - 2. Also in May, they did a several hour forage fish activity and survey in Fidalgo Bay for Island View Elementary highly-capable students
    - 3. During the summer, 4 or 5 youth and an Intern from Salish Sea School are working with those orgs. to do monthly forage fish surveys in Fidalgo Bay with a project report late in the year.
    - 4. They will host at least one session - maybe two - of forage fish demos and surveys for Salish Sea School programs during the summer.

- ii. The 2023 Salish Sea Stewards class finished in early May and those 25 new grads of all ages and backgrounds are out and about volunteering here and there and spreading the word.
- iii. I know PBNERR is setting up the Letterbox trail on the Upland Trail with the help of Bayview Elementary school.

### 3. K-12 Discussion

- a. Keven and Holli plan to start developing TeachSkagit.org to replace SWC's [STEAM Resource Guide](#). **\*CEC members that have resources to share on this website should fill out [this survey](#) before the next meeting.**
  - b. Holli is planning on submitting completed STEAM Train proposals to BESD and SWSD before the end of the school year.
  - c. The CEC expressed some interest getting a training in one or more of the following:
    - i. Social-Emotional Learning (SEL). **\*Amanda will share with the CEC the short power point on "learner centered education" she put together after a training on the topic.** She says it is closely related to SEL.
    - ii. Since Time Immemorial Curriculum
    - iii. Next Generation Science Standards. .
    - iv. Effective evaluations of programs. **\*A discussion of this will be added to our July meeting agenda**
    - v. Effective use of Social Media. **\*A discussion about social media will be added to next month's meeting.**
4. We discussed collaboratng on a [RCO Outdoor Learning Grant](#) similar to the [Marson County Partnership](#) that received \$92,471 over the last grant round. However, at this time, we do not feel ready for this.

Next meeting: June 27th, 1-2:30, online only

Other upcoming events/deadlines:

- Bark in the Park (SCD and Skagit County doing dog poop outreach), June 10<sup>th</sup>
- SFEG @ MV Farmer's market, June 10<sup>th</sup>
- Deadline to start [RCO Outdoor Learning Grant](#), June 15
- Deadline to sign up for CYAD, June 16<sup>th</sup>
- Berry Dairy Days (Skagit County doing outreach), June 16-18
- SFEG Trivia at North Sound Brewing, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm
- Kulshan Street Fair (SLT and SCD will be doing outreach), June 24<sup>th</sup>
- [National Marine Educators' Association Conference](#), July 23-27
  - o SWC workshop about Drain Ranger program for 8<sup>th</sup> grade, July 24
  - o SITC workshop about Between Two Worlds curriculum for highschoolers, July 24
- Concrete Youth Adventure Day (SLT and SCD will be tabling), July 13<sup>th</sup>, 10-2pm
- Skagit County Fair, (Skagit County and Maybe SCD doing outreach) Aug 9-12<sup>th</sup>
- Fidalgo Bay Day, Aug 26<sup>th</sup>
- Skagit River Salmon Festival tabling @ MV Farmer's Market, Sept 9<sup>th</sup>