

Community Engagement Committee

Skagit Watershed Council August 29th, 2023, 1-3pm

Draft Minutes

Present: Melissa Ciesielski, Holly Henderson, Cindy Pierce, Lucy DeGrace, Holli Watne

1. We approved the June 2023 notes
2. Roundtable of updates
 - a. Holli – I finished BGCA programs for the summer. This was a mixed bag, but I'd work with them again. Went to the SCEA retirement party. It was a lovely evening and I got to receive 15% of the organization's remaining assets for SWC. Planning for luminary arts programs has started.
 - b. Lucy and Holly –
 - i. Already scheduling school programs, but nothing planned until October.
 - ii. Salmon in the Classroom updates: La Conner has drop from Salmon in the Classroom, that's now 12 schools plus the Children's Museum participating.
 - iii. Doing a formal for volunteers to help with field trips on Step 21st. This is new. In the past, we've relied on board members to support school programs.
 - iv. Lots of upcoming [volunteer opportunities](#)
 - v. Recently tabled at the Burlington Back to School Fair. This is a great way to introduce yourself to new students and visit with past students we've worked with. We do salmon trivia and the students who have done Salmon in the Classroom before get more answers correctly. We would recommend this event for anyone who has fun educational activities/materials to share.
 - vi. Will be hosting the [Wild and Scenic Film Festival](#) on October 12th.
 - c. Cindy - Stream Team training coming up next week. Seeking new volunteers. Will be tabling at the Festival of Family Farms on Oct 7th and 8th
 - d. Melissa: was at Fidalgo Bay day. Getty ready for HS program.
3. ***Our October meeting has been canceled.**

4. K-12 Discussion: Holli has finished the [STEAM Resource list for this school year](#).
5. Next month we will have a presentation by Julie Burgmeier from Skagit marketing.
6. Debrief from NMEA conference/ Skagit County Fair/ Fidalgo Bay Day
 - a. Holli shared a few examples of activity books for kids. We discussed the possibility of doing something similar to teach about the Skagit Watershed. We will consider writing a Skagit community foundation grant to get it printed and distributed.
 - b. Craig Olson has put together some very nice displays of the salmon lifecycle. They look like this:



He's happy to give them to local educators for \$20, which will cover the cost of materials.

If interested, please email Craig at is40.col3@gmail.com

Next meeting: Sept 26th, 1-2:30pm, including a 60-minute training by Julie Burmeier

Upcoming events:

- Skagit River Salmon Festival tabling @ MV Farmer's Market, Sept 9th
- SWC Annual Lunch @ Hillcrest Park, Sept 20th

- CEC meeting w/ social media training, Sept 26th
- [Festival of Family Farms](#), Oct 7th and 8th
- [Surge](#) (MoNA exhibit about local impacts of climate change), including an interactive [display by PBNERR](#), Oct 14th to Jan 21st
- Wild and Scenic Film Festival @ Lincoln Theater (SFEG), Oct 12th, 6-8pm
- Last CEC meeting of the year – HYBRID – Nov 28th
- Storming the Sound @ Maple Hall in La Conner, January 25th
- Illuminight Winter Walk, downtown MV, January 26th