

# Skagit Community Engagement Committee Notes

## Skagit Watershed Council

June 26, 2018 – 1:00 to 1:50pm, Padilla Bay NERR Interpretive Center

Present: Alex duPont (WSU Ext. and Chair), Kristi Carpenter (SCD), Lucy DeGrace (SFEG) + SFEG Intern, Cindy Pierce (SCD), Andrea Reiter (SWC), Allison Roberts (Kulshan Services - notetaker), Karen Summers (SCEA, EcoNet Chair), and Scottie Schneider (SWC).

Not Present: Richard Brocksmith (SWC), Melissa Courtney (?), Keelin Maurmann (SFEG), Wayne Watne (WDFW)

- Welcome and introductions – Introductions shared were a great way for others present to hear about projects and initiatives happening all around.
- May meeting notes were approved with one change regarding Skagit Conservation District. Replace Skagit Conservation District with ? on the notes bullet #3.
- Reviewed action items
- The committee welcomed the new SWC Community Engagement Coordinator, Andrea Reiter, who spoke about her history and previous work.
- Brainstorm Next Steps for #ThisSkagitLife (?) Interviews

Under SWC contract, Kulshan Services conducted four interviews written into blog posts with representatives from various sectors: conservation education, agriculture, tribal, and forestry. A fifth interview will be completed soon. Photos and some short video clips are also available.

Note: These interviews are confidential and not to be shared until a plan for their use has been determined. **If committee members note any inaccuracies in the interviews, they should communicate those to Scottie.**

The committee discussed multiple ways to roll out the content:

1. Revive the SWC website blog and post them there. Cross post parts of the content on social media every couple weeks with a goal to share the people and places that make Skagit special.
2. Hold an event modeled after the “Think & Drink” community involvement idea. (Check out <https://www.humanities.org/program/think-and-drink/>) The idea of Think & Drink events is to have hosted conversations at pubs and tasting rooms on provocative topics and new ideas. Pick a theme, drink a beer, and have a conversation in a comfortable, neutral setting.
3. Do a newspaper piece/newsletter
4. Monthly column – Museum’s newsletter, Concrete Herald (Jason Miller – mayor and editor of the herald), Scott Terrell (Cindy Pierce’s connection), SVH (Alex – Craig Parrish)

5. Anacortes has a collection of historical documents which could be great info for storytelling. The Skagit Historical Society also could be a great partner in this project. **\*Karen Summers recommended SWC speak with Katie Bunge of the Skagit Historical Society. Karen indicated she would make the introduction.**
6. Generate Podcasts from the interviews – Many people listen to podcasts in their spare time. Determine where they can be posted. Can they be done with a phone? What software is needed to put them together? **\*Allison will determine if and how Kulshan Services can provide the audio files to SWC. WE would also need to determine if the quality is suitable for public use.**
7. Partner with MONA and do an event with speakers. Karen said the museum is wanting to do events similar to Ales to Tales and Think and Drink (mentioned above). They could be done with themes in mind. Or it could be a panel discussion with three people on a panel per topic and theme.
8. Radio uses: Consider airing the interviews on the Chuckanut Radio Hour or tie in with the SVC radio show.

The **Chuckanut Radio Hour** is a **radio** variety show that began in January, 2007, and you can listen to previously recorded programs. The Radio Hour airs Friday at 7:00 a.m., Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 9:00 p.m. on SPARK Radio, KMRE 102.3FM

KSVR - <http://www.ksvr.org/> - **KSVR/KSVU** (2 full service FM radio stations) are committed to providing local voices and content, with entertainment, news, and information, for the Skagit Valley College Educational District #4, in both English and Spanish.

9. Eagle Festival in January has a panel format which could be tapped into for future interviews/forums.
  10. WWU department – KUGS? Anna could reach out to Katherine Patrick at WWU Huxley. They could work with Lucy about the question to see if there is a contribution.
  11. Keelin could train Lucy DeGrace on how she did her podcasts. The goal would be to determine if this could be a viable way to share the interviews.
  12. Board member of the Skagit County Historical Society – Dan Royal (?) does the Skagit River Journal website which is full of information that could be accessed.
  13. Migrant worker stories – Alex has migrant worker connections and Karen does too with the Hernandez family). The group also thought it would be great to highlight the Sakuma story (internment camps).
  14. Reach out to John Bowen (Phoebe Barnard – formerly of the Pacific Resiliency Institute - her husband) He is a film maker.
  15. Babarovitch Family – Karen knows this family of fishermen from Croatia. There is a great Croatian picnic August 2 with many from the community attending.
  16. Coach Glenn Rickert - He will also likely be attending the picnic August 2.
- Facebook Group – Karen mentioned the WWU Extension has started a private group (with rules and membership) to increase interaction with each other. Perhaps this could be done with the CEC.
  - Upcoming Events
    - July 12 - Managing Stormwater Facilities Workshop – 5:30-8:30pm
    - July 12 – SFEG and SCD – Water Wonders – 10am-noon

- July 15 - Sustainable Samish Garden Tour – 1-3pm
- July 17 – Pop Up in the Parks - Fairy Houses and Forest Friends with Burlington Parks and Rec – (Kristi needs volunteers to work with little kids)
- Work Party at Coronet Bay – SFEG – Weeding and watering restoration project and some pulling of weeds not meant to be there.
- Every Wednesday SFEG is at their native plant nursery
- Other? none
- Meeting wrap-up – Adjourn at 1:50pm

Next meeting is **September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018**. Have a great summer!!