

Lakes and Drainage Committee Meeting
10-2-23 7pm Via ZOOM

Attending:
Bill Reilly
Betsy Just
Lowell Lorenz
David Scheirman
Ken Hecker
Terry Sullivan
Harry Shearer
David Franklin

Approval of the 9-11-23 minutes. Motion to approve by Ken and second by David S.

Old Business:

Carp Report:

Fish and Wildlife cancelled for the second time this summer to help us with the electroshock removal of the carp in Kwan Lake. They said they are short staffed and just too busy. They want to rescheduled for next summer. Unfortunately the shock treatment will not work in the winter when the carp are unproductive. Ken will follow up with fish and wildlife see what we can work out.

Status Report in Rogers Slough:

The County has asked us to store the logs for now. They have reached out to the Parks and Recreation departments to see if they can use them. We expect to hear from them soon about their removal.

Status Report of the Lake Treatment:

Bobby was not at the meeting so no new report. He did email Bill to let him know that he has not applied the last application of EutroSORB due to wind and weather conditions.

Status Report of the County Study:

We have not received a report from the County yet. We expect to have it soon. It will be discussed at the Public Meeting with BBWARM (Birch Bay Watershed and Aquatic Resource Management District) at the BBVCC Clubhouse Wednesday October 18 at 6pm. BBWARM will host a final presentation on the Birch Point Subwatershed Drainage Study.

Status Report on County MOU and Outreach:

It has been approved and signed by Ernie and David Franklin and sent to the County. Waiting to hear back.

Flood Protocols:

We are thrilled to report the ditches that run along run behind lower Salish on Birch Bay Road have been cleaned out by the County. The ditches across the street by the Realty building have also been done. We have reached out to the County many times asking for this to be done. This was a very important item on the Flood Protocol checklist.

Betsy, Karen and Bill will mark all the critical drains locations and lower Salish with bright white paint which will make them easier to find in the event of flooding.

Emergency pump will be set up by the lower gate late October or early November.

David F. commented that stormwater drainage was not a priority for Semiahmoo until the flood in November 2021.

David S. also brought up that after the flooding in BBVCC a group of villagers created a group called HOVAG (Homeowners Volunteer Advisory Group) which is an independent group that come together to discuss, research and find solutions to common concerns to BBVCC homeowners. They were very involved in supporting all efforts to prevent future flooding. They have 125 members.

Preventing any future flooding effects us all and its great to see BBVCC, neighboring communities and County working together.

Algae Report:

David found a checklist memo in the archives that was put together about 5 years ago. It shows what chemicals to use in the lakes and ponds and how often. We are not sure it was approved or ever used since we have one left in the village that was on that committee. We will create a subcommittee workshop with Bobby to review.

This summer David on the first of each month has been taking notes and pictures of Kwann, Thunderbird and the north golf course to document the algae blooms. The 2023 summer season was much better controlled compared to 2022. October will be the last month in 2023. He will start again April 1, 2024. It was suggested that next year the golf course ponds deserve more focused attention.

Bobby will also be attending the WALPA (Washington State Lake Protection Association) Convention this year again. David and Bobby went last year and learned a lot and made some great contacts.

New Business:

None

Comments:

Brochure:

David S. said there is a brochure in the “New Owners Packet” that talks about ponds and lakes that is wrong. It calls the committee Lakes and Ponds instead of Lakes and Drainage, it has the wrong name and phone # and has wrong information about the carp. We will address in our workshop and get the right information.

Wiser Lake:

We also received an email from a person that lives on Wiser Lake in Lynden. He used to live in BBV and is a former board and Lake committee member. He is putting together a Lakes Committee for Wiser Lake and asked us to share what equipment and products we use. Their lake has tested high for anatoxin biotoxin, a toxin produced by algae, that can be harmful to pets and humans. Whatcom County has approved a grant to help them. We reached out and will help however we can.

Motion to adjourn by Ken and second by David S.

Minutes by Betsy Just