

**East Whatcom Community Council  
Clean Air Committee  
Meeting summary  
July 14, 2021 - via video conference**

**CAC Charge:** The charge of the East Whatcom Community Council Clean Air Committee is to work jointly with the Northwest Clean Air Agency to develop a comprehensive, community-based, long-range plan designed to improve the air quality in the East Whatcom County Region.

**Chair:** Rebecca Cayen

**Co-chair Outreach:** Carl McDaniel

**Members:** Jerry DeBruin & David Moe - WCFPD #14; Aly Robinson - Whatcom County Health Department; Mark Schofield - Opportunity Council (OppCo); Curtis Metz, Gabe Nelson, Jacob Johnson - Whatcom County Fire Marshal; Viktor Vetkov - Slavic Church; Dean Zender & David Camp, Wood Bank; Seth Preston - Northwest Clean Air Agency

**Present:** Rebecca Cayen, Mark Schofield, Aly Robinson, Seth Preston

**Agenda items:**

- 1. Introductions** – All present introduced themselves and identified their role at work and in the community.
- 2. Approval of May 12, 2021, meeting summary**  
Mark moved to approve meeting minutes; Aly seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.
- 3. Open public comment – None**
- 4. Announcements –**  
Members who were present discussed staying with Zoom meetings instead of gathering in person and also keeping with meeting every 2 months (and more often if needed). Those present agreed to keep meeting every 2 months via Zoom for now and talking about it again in September.  
  
Summerfest scheduled for August 3 and the group talked about sharing a table or two to provide information to people at the event. Mark said Opportunity Council would be represented; Aly said Whatcom County Health would attend too.
- 5. Wood stove replacement update:**  
Mark – The last ductless heat pump was installed. With that, they will be spent out for the entire current grant. There were 27 people assisted with this program through this grant cycle.
- 6. FY21 – 23 wood stove grant –**  
Seth – Legislators finished the 21–23 fiscal years budgets, but NWCAA was still waiting to hear how much grant money it may receive. NWCAA applied for a \$360,000 share of around \$3.5 million to \$4 million available to be split between the Department of Ecology and the local clean air agencies.

**7. Chipping Event –**

Rebecca – The next chipping event will be September 8-9, with Northwest Clean Air providing funding for the work.

There is also an ask for the next April event. Should has an update by the next meeting. Will be asking the Foothills Community Alliance for funds.

**8. NWCAA update**

Seth - No exceedances since the May meeting. There was 1 outdoor burning complaint on May 26 from an address on Tilbury Road.

Seth – Talked briefly about EPA’s relatively new fire and smoke map ([fire.airnow.gov](https://www.fire.airnow.gov)), which shows PurpleAir sensors in the Columbia Valley area and around the state along with clean air agencies’ monitors throughout the state.

Rebecca – Next meeting will be September 8, 2021.