

**East Whatcom Community Council
Clean Air Committee
Meeting summary
September 8, 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, Dave Camp, Carl McDaniel

Agenda items:

1. Introductions – All present introduced themselves and identified their role at work and in the community.

2. Approval of July 14, 2021, meeting summary
Mark moved to approve meeting minutes; Carl 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. Those present agreed to keep meeting every 2 months via Zoom for now and re-evaluating as needed given the state of COVID.

5. Wood stove replacement update:
Mark – No change from last meeting.

Seth – Applied for \$360,000, received \$260,000 because there are a number of agencies applying for those same resources. NW Clean Air will meet with Mark in about 2 weeks to discuss contracts.

6. WOOD BANK update –
Woodland Co-operative – Dave Camp treasurer - Funded by the Forest Service to get firewood to low-income residents. Right now, it's \$300 a cord. He feels that they are bit low on supplies for this season. Last year they did a little over 200 cords. People can contact their manager Tarence Meyer, director@washingtonwoodland.coop. They haven't had a significant wood bank in Whatcom County. Their wood is on a sliding scale by their income. Informally, they are having people work to cut and spit firewood for receiving a cord or

possibly for money. They are working on getting the wood bank up to speed to have wood in Whatcom County.

7. September chipping event and future events –

Rebecca – The chipping event is going on today and tomorrow. There were only 40 people who signed up this time. The June event had a lot of new consumers and that may have been why there were not as many people. She will be requesting more funding for the next possible event.

8. NWCAA update

Seth – could not find any reports of complaints with the urban growth area. In terms of air quality, NWCAA's monitor showed air in the Unhealthy range on August 12, 13, and 14. On the 13th air quality briefly slipped into the hazardous range.

Jacob – Will not be taking down the fire safety burn ban until possibly early October. One complaint was forwarded to the Fire Marshal Office and Jacob took care of the problem. The Fire Marshall put this year's fire safety burn ban into effect a month early.

Rebecca – Next meeting will be November 10, 2021.