

**East Whatcom Community Council  
Clean Air Committee  
Meeting Summary  
December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 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:** Seth Preston, Carl McDaniel, Curtis Metz, Mark Schofield, and Aly Robinson.

**Agenda items:**

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

**2. Approval of October 10, 2023, meeting summary**

Mark Scholfield moved to approve meeting minutes; Carl McDaniel seconded the motion with one change. The vote was unanimous except Rebecca, who abstained because she was not present at the October 10 meeting.

**3. Open public comment** – None

**4. Announcements** – None

**5. Chipping event summary** – None

**6. Wood stove replacement update –**

Mark – There are 5 households already in the application process and 10 on the waitlist.

Seth – Passed on another contact just today to be added to the list. The list of woodstoves approved to be put into homes has been reduced to those models that meet stricter testing performed by the State of Alaska. Only models that are currently on an EPA-approved list based on the Alaska testing will be used.

**7. WOOD BANK update** – None

**8. Possible outreach Opportunities and chipping event –**

Rebecca – Currently cannot look for funding for the chipping event. She will try to write up what she has done in the past so that the group can find a way to take up the slack and possibly get the event up and going again. The East Whatcom Community Council has been asked to sponsor the event but is not sure it is a good fit.

Aly – Possibly shifting the chipping event over to the park and recreation district.

Seth – NWCA can help with funding because the event aligns with their mission up here.

Rebecca – The cost through the current vendor is about \$2,500 to \$3,000 per day. Peaceful Valley is certified “firewise” so the HOA has been paying for their chipping event separately.

Seth – NWCAA is talking about possibly finding a way to do an event that may be a stand-alone or attached to an event like the Health Fair but with more presence. This would be like an event NWCAA and the Clean Air Committee held in 2017 to talk about implementing burn bans during poor air quality periods. The group talked about possibly reaching out to Barron and having them bring out a Vermont stove to be at the event.

## **9. NW Clean Air update –**

Seth – There were seven exceedances in November: 11/17: 47.6, 11/18: 57.3, 11/25: 48.8, 11/26: 58.4, 11/27: 65.2, 11/28: 45.2, 11/29: 40.3.

There were 2 complaints from November 1 through December 12 – one fireplace on Juniper, the other outdoors on Overland Trail.

Curtis Metz – Nothing to report.

## **10. 2024 Meeting Schedule (subject to change)**

January 10  
March 13  
May 8  
June 12  
August 14  
October 9  
November 13