

**DRAFT Chambers-Clover Watershed Council Meeting Notes**  
**Wednesday, March 12, 2008**  
**Lakewood City Hall, Executive Conference Room**

Attending: Janine Redmond, John Collins, Phil Schnieder, Al Schmauder, Kristin Williamson, Cindy James, Cindy Beckett, Angela Silva, Don Russell, Jim Ebbert, Greg Vigoren, Jim Jenkins, Bob Burkle, Melissa Paulson, Lorin Reinelt, Jim Winn, Lindsay Tuttle, Scott M. Hansen, Ray Hanowell, Mike Rhubright, and lone Clagett (taking notes).

**Presentations & Education:**

**Asphalt Removal Project at Parkland Prairie (Kristin Williamson, SPSSEG)**

A general over view of the project, which will address approximately 660 lineal feet, was presented. Permits are pending and proposed construction will start summer of 2008. Engineering/construction is budgeted at \$70-80k, with \$100k the total amount of the grant. They are hopeful that they can use native soil but may have to import fines. This will be 12 feet wide and a low-flow channel is a possibility.

Comments: Need to incorporate pools for fish to hang out but not trap them during dry spells. Monitoring and data collections can be done by students and volunteers. The county partnership may help speed up the permitting practice. Parkland Community Association should know about this project. E-mail additional comments and suggestions to Kristin.

**Tule Lake (Don Russell and Angela Silva)**

Tule Lake is a small, formerly groundwater fed kettle lake downstream (Spanaway Creek, connected in 1888) from Spanaway Lake. It is clogged by cattails and yellow iris and in some places impenetrable. The surrounding landowners own to the center of the lake. Don gave an historical overview noting that Tule Lake was originally unconnected to any creek and the water was piped to Tacoma as drinking water at one time. During the rainy season fish migrated, spawned; during the dry season fish did o.k. in a lake or pond fed by cooler subsurface water.

Ditches were dug to drain surface water into lakes like Tule, groundwater draw out has increased dramatically since the 1920s, vegetation was removed and aquifer recharge areas were paved over or otherwise covered. Wetlands targeted by surface water runoff become nutrient sinks and when allowed to dry out they become, just as septic systems, a nutrient source. Tule Lake with 20% open water left is well on the way to eutrophication which add up to loss of property values, threats to health, unsuitable habitat. Even native species are growing out of control.

A team is forming and neighbors are considering options, one of them being spraying. They are looking upstream to the source of the problem: Spanaway Lake. TPCHD is studying the algae problem; the staff can help and identify grant funding. This is habitat worth recovering (although the criteria for poor, fair, good habitat rating eluded the discussion). Certainly agencies can provide solutions and set people in the right direction, but they are not policy makers. These are waters of the state so the hydraulic code must be followed; that means that hand-pulling and raking by hand can be done now. Further work would probably require approval by the Army Corps of Engineers.

## **BREAK**

### **CCWC Business (Melissa Paulson)**

**Work Plan 2008** - Drafting of this plan started at the January retreat. It is based on comments made there, subsequent reviews, confirmation on what council members are willing to work on and feedback solicited by Melissa via email. The work plan was approved, contingent that Scott's name and work items are added in.

**Bylaws** – Revisions primarily reflect a change in the Executive Committee makeup and a few revisions in wordage. Because additional revisions were requested at the time of the meeting, final approval of the bylaws will be tabled until the April meeting. Anyone interested in serving on the Executive Committee as a member-at-large should notify Al or Melissa immediately.

### **Brief Reports**

**Puget Creek Restoration Society (Scott Hansen)** - Regarding the mud slide issue raised at previous meetings, PCRS has been pressing Metro Parks to go after the responsible party. Nothing has happened about obtaining a permit for the work. These postponements appear to be a delaying tactic. Scott requested that a letter from CCWC be sent. He will draft it and send it to Melissa.

**Pierce County (Lorin Reinelt)** - The LID pilot project to replace the current pavement with permeable asphalt is beginning at Sprinker Recreation Center. The project will also include installation of bioretention (rain garden) features.

**City of Tacoma (Mike Rhubright)** - Three wells, each 30 feet deep, have been punched in at Wapato Lake to do sampling. Tacoma will be looking at phosphorus for sure but there is a long list of parameters. As we get some numbers we'll be better able to assess the groundwater contribution to the loading of the lake.

**TPCHD (Ray Hanowell)** - The toxic algae grant program is starting. We will be sending out 2500 letters to residents surrounding the twenty-nine lakes in the county, surveying their knowledge of the problem. We may be able to use Wapato's shallow well this summer to check for the presence of toxins in subsurface flow.

**Ecology (Cindy James)** - Ecology will be making a decision in May regarding monitoring on selected streams. In the Chamber-Clover watershed Leach Creek was selected last year. CCWC council members suggested that Spanaway Creek south of Tule Lake be selected as the monitoring site this year.

**Announcements/Comments:** Don Russell reported that the first treatment of Waughop Lake will begin late this month. Cindy Beckett pointed out that at the CCWC meeting last February Barbara Guller's expressed concern about development near the headwaters of Clover Creek received no response. A discussion followed. It was noted that the way to enlist CCWC assistance is to come to the meeting with a specific request for the type of help needed: Further research, a site visit or a letter (first draft appreciated).

Adjourn