

**City of Tumwater
Barnes Lake Management District**

Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2006

Main Conference Room, City Hall

I. Call to order

Kathy Peterson called to order the regular meeting of the Barnes Lake Steering Committee (BLMD-SC) at 6:00 p.m. on April 13, 2006 in the Main Conference Room at City Hall.

II. Roll call

Kathy Peterson conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Ron Lumaguip, Judith Loft, Bill Baxter, John Swander, Bob Hayes, and Dan Smith. Rosemary Walsh was excused.

III. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The BLMD-SC reviewed the minutes from the last meeting. The minutes were approved as written.

IV. Open issues

a) March Agenda Carryover – IAVMP Plan Completion:

The Steering Committee reviewed materials prepared by staff from documents provided by BLMD-SC members. Two variants of the management goals were provided to the BLMD-SC for review – 1. A recitation of the goals outlined in the petition for LMD formation, and 2. a simplified version attaining the primary goal of vegetation management.

Bill Baxter requested clarification on language in the minutes from the previous meeting regarding the prioritization of vegetation to be managed by the LMD, specifically wetland vegetation and hazardous trees along the shorelines. Language referring to examination of “hazardous trees” has been removed from the draft plan. Kathy Peterson and Staff Representative Smith explained that those statements arose from the brainstorming session on management ideas. Those particular elements are items that can be considered in future years, but are not being addressed for the initial application to Ecology.

The BLMD-SC chose to work with the simplified version, adding a number of the goals from the LMD petition. John Swander clarified that the management goals outlined in the plan do not limit the LMD from addressing other items in the future, but simply guide the group through the initial

planning phases. Staff Representative Smith agreed, stating that this plan is a living document and can be updated as new information, technologies, or ideas evolve.

Discussion continued on the goals stated in the petition formation document, eliminating items for inclusion in the IAVMP. Rosemary Walsh provided comments on the goals, with some items raising concerns relating to trespassing and the necessity of purchase/lease of land or office space. Smith clarified that enforcement of trespassing issues is not the job of the LMD or the Steering Committee. If there are concerns of non-lake residents accessing the lake, the Tumwater Police Department is the appropriate agency to handle those issues. Options for conservation easements and land purchases could be considered in future years, but is not likely a pursuit of the LMD due to financial limitations. Liability issues were also raised if there was an accident on the lake with or without “posting”. Smith stated he would seek clarification from Legal on the potential for liability of the LMD. Smith will prepare a response to Rosemary on the issues raised and will ‘cc’ the group.

Referring back to Step B, Management Goals, Kathy Peterson requested that scientific studies, such as hydrologic and bathymetric assessments, be included with managing appropriate water levels to maintain recreational and aesthetic values designated by the LMD. Additionally, a review or assessment of the dam/weir needs to be included.

The BLMD-SC moved the discussion to public involvement outreach methods and pertinent stakeholders. Kathy Peterson suggested a category be added to act as a catch-all for interested parties, but not necessarily affected by LMD activities – such as environmental groups, students, and members of associations/agencies affiliated with Barnes Lake (DOT/Michael T. Simmons/Methodist Church). The list was refined and accepted for inclusion into the IAVMP.

Identification of watershed features. Staff prepared language for review by BLMD-SC. John Swander questioned whether springs should be identified as a influent source of Barnes Lake. Smith clarified that since a hydrologic analysis has not been conducted, the plan should not state a definitive source of influent. The language does state that groundwater may influence lake levels, and more studies should be completed to definitively determine all influences on the lake. A few more minor revisions were made to the text and accepted by the SC for inclusion into the IAVMP.

Further discussion centered around development of conservation areas. Staff will prepare an overhead for the next meeting to facilitate discussion.

- b) **Wildlife Survey Options:** Staff has not received information from Fish & Wildlife (DFW) despite numerous attempts to contact agency staff.

Preliminary research suggests that DFW does not provide free surveys, as Ecology provides. Staff will continue to follow-up. Kathy Peterson developed a spreadsheet for the SC members to add wildlife observed by lake residents. Kathy will provide all the members with copies with the hope that the list will be updates. Kathy will also contact the Audubon Society for information on bird lists/counts they may have.

Staff Smith also suggested the option for an Evergreen student, or other area school, to provide information. Ron Lumaguip expressed that this may not be able to be completed in a timely manner to coincide with the permit application. Smith will follow-up with area professors to determine feasibility for a student-led study.

- c) **NE Neighborhood Representation:** Kathy Peterson reminded the group that the Steering Committee is lacking a member from the NE neighborhood. John Swander stated that he has had little luck in finding a replacement from his neighborhood, but will keep looking. Kathy Peterson stated that this may be a good opportunity to discuss alternate members and by-proxy votes. Staff Representative Smith stated that he would review options with Legal to determine what the best course of action would be.

V. New business

- a) **Public Meetings – Set tentative schedule:** In conjunction with the discussion on Public Outreach and Involvement, the BLMD-SC developed a schedule for public notification and opportunity for comment on the aquatic vegetation management activities. Other than a public meeting in February and July coordinated with the Barnes Lake Conservancy, the BLMD-SC will acknowledge opportunity for public comment during regular Steering Committee meetings in August, September, and October. Public Notification is required as part of the treatment process and will be handled by the contracted applicator. In addition, the BMLD-SC will develop postcard notifications for upcoming meetings dealing with treatment options. A tentative schedule was developed for inclusion in the IAVMP.
- b) **Ad Hoc Committee Discussion:** Kathy Peterson requested the Committee discuss any concerns pertaining to the formation of ad-hoc committees. John Swander stated he feels that as time goes on, ad-hocs will be necessary to keep materials and information moving forward. No formal decisions are made at these meetings and reports will be regularly made at regular SC meetings. No additional concerns or comments at this time.
- c) **Meeting Schedule Adjustments:** Given staff and BLMD-SC schedules over the next few months, adjustments to the regular meeting schedule is needed. Dates were reviewed and tentatively accepted. BLMD-SC will review dates and let staff know if there are any major conflicts.

d) April 22nd Activity:

Debbie Smith, Tumwater Stream Team has organized an Earth Day activity for the Barnes Lake vicinity. Debbie is requesting contact information and volunteers to assist with the event planned to apply storm drain markers. Kathy Peterson and Judith Loft agreed to be a main point of contact for the event.

e) Other Business:

The books requested by the Steering Committee requested from the Ecology presentation are in and available for review.

The assessments are still coming in, with approximately \$3,500 still outstanding. A second round of notices were sent out to the owners.

f) Staff Assignments:

- Contact Ecology to set date for vegetation survey and finalize logistics for access.
- Contact Thurston County to finalize logistics for water quality monitoring access.
- Review needs for appointment of replacement for Paul Strawn.
- Discuss options with Legal for alternate/proxy votes on management activities.
- Discuss liability issues for accidents on Barnes Lake.
- Prepare photo overhead for conservancy area considerations.
- Consider options for herbicide applicator presentation.

g) BLMD-SC Assignments:

VI. Adjournment

Kathy Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Dan Smith, Staff Representative

Minutes approved by: Barnes Lake Management District Steering Committee