

City of Tumwater
Barnes Lake Management District

Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2007
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Tumwater City Hall
555 Israel Road SW
Tumwater, WA 98501

I. Call to order

Chair Peterson called to order the regular meeting of the Barnes Lake Steering Committee (BLMD-SC) at 6:00 p.m. on August 8, 2007 at the Tumwater City Hall.

II. Roll call

Chair Peterson conducted a roll call. The following Steering Committee members were present: Ron Lumaguip, Bob Hayes, Bill Baxter, John Swander, Rosemary Walsh, Gary Bodeutsch, Judith Loft and Staff Representative Smith. Northwest Aquatic Eco-Systems (NWA), Doug Dorling was present.

III. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from the July meeting were approved as written.

IV. Open Issues

a) Vegetation Management Update

Doug Dorling, principal with NWA, attended the meeting to provide an update of treatment activities to the Steering Committee and answer questions relating to the remaining activities for the year. Doug reviewed the activities of the initial treatments, stating that the application differed from what was originally planned. The initial design called for treatment of all areas outside of the conservancy zones. Field assessments conducted by NWA suggested that this would cause a major uplift of the bottom sediments, and a revised plan would need to be considered. The revised treatment concept would be to test 3 small plots with varying chemical concentrations. Just prior to the treatments, NWA reassessed lake conditions and determined that the revised treatment plan would not be sufficient to address LMD member concerns relating to equity of treatment locations, and revised the plan to provide shoreline properties with access to the main water body to enhance recreational access. At each step, NWA consulted with Ecology and City staff for approval of the treatment plan.

Under the latest plan, NWA applied herbicides in swaths up to 20' in width from shoreline properties to the lake's open water. Some paths connected to others, with the ultimate goal of providing each property with access to the open water. Subsequent treatments will expand upon these pathways, as well as increasing the

perimeter of open water treatments. All treatments have been applied conservatively in hopes of forcing the vegetation to die back without causing an uplift of the root systems that would be expected to occur on the lake. Results of the treatment activities will not be fully noted until later in the season, as uplifts can take up to 4 months after treatments to occur.

Committee members Swander and Bodeutsch stated members along Daisy Lane are concerned that they did not receive any treatments. NWA recalled that the water levels in that vicinity are too shallow and were concerned that treatments in that area will cause an uplift of sediments and root systems. An approach was discussed to alleviate member concerns. NWA stated that patience is ultimately needed from all lake members, as this will be a long process – especially given the high risk of uplift and excessive costs for removal. As access to the lake shoreline for the heavy equipment needed to remove the debris is extremely limited, the ultimate goal is to provide treatments in a manner that will reduce the possibility for uplift. Staff Rep Smith stated that while lake-wide access for removal of debris is poor, there is one location that would be sufficient along Daisy Lane, provided the owner is willing to enter into an agreement with the LMD. NWA agreed to test a 5-10' strip along the shoreline in the Daisy Lane area with the understanding that if these sediments uplifted, it would be a costly and time intensive process for removal. NWA stated that residents may be more concerned with the uplift and associated issues (increased odors, insects, and unsightly views) than with the retention of lilies. Committee members acknowledged these issues and voted to test the site given neighborhood concerns.

Smith asked if raising the water levels will assist in the treatment planning for the Daisy Lane neighborhood. NWA stated that during the warmer months, much of the water in the lake evaporates, causing the low levels. Ideally, an additional 2' would be needed for NWA to feel more comfortable accessing and treating the area. One idea would be to treat this area in the early Spring, while lake levels are higher. Smith stated that the LMD will be looking at options to raise the berm controlling outflow of the lake during the winter and increasing available water during the summer months. Smith stated this would be a long-term goal, as the concept would need to be negotiated with various state agencies for approval.

NWA is planning a second application to the lake within 10-14 days. NWA will notify City staff and hand deliver treatment notices to lake shore residents. Smith acknowledged the revised notification methods. NWA has reported that they are in constant communication with Ecology and has received approvals on all changes to the permit. Smith thanked NWA for their diligence in working with Ecology and acknowledged that what happens in the field is often different than what is planned on paper. Chair Peterson reported that Lark Street was missed during the hand delivery for the initial treatment. NWA replied that it was a minor oversight and he will ensure that notices are provided to the Lark Street members for all future treatments.

Chair Peterson requested that the public meeting scheduled for October take place in September to address LMD member concerns and provide an update on treatment activities. NWA agreed to attend. Chair Peterson also requested Smith provide an update and/or presentation on noxious weed identification and control. Smith stated that would be a good opportunity for education and will put something together.

Additionally, Smith reported that the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board contacted the City explaining that there are a few sites that have purple loosestrife identified. Thurston County has been reviewing Barnes Lake annually as part of their regular program, but requested that purple loosestrife be added to the LMD's vegetation management plan. Smith requested that Thurston County notify the City whenever new threats are identified.

b) Budget & Assessment Update

Staff Rep. Smith reviewed the status of assessment collection. To date, \$15,575 has been collected for the 2007 assessments. Fourteen (14) properties have outstanding assessments, of which eight (8) have not paid since the inception of the assessments in 2006. \$1,223 remains outstanding from 2006; \$1,730 from 2007. Total outstanding payments equal \$2,953.

V. New Business

a) Work Plan Update

Staff Rep Smith reviewed some recent amendments to the 2007 Work Plan, discussed previously at the July meeting, and provided the Steering Committee with updated work plans. Chair Peterson requested that the "public meeting" be revised from the October meeting to the September meeting to address concerns that the LMD membership was interested in updates earlier than October. Additionally, Chair Peterson requested that a noxious weeds presentation is provided to the membership at this meeting. Smith stated that he will add these items to the work plan and develop a noxious weeds presentation.

b) Lien Process Initiated

Smith reported that the City has initiated the lien process for those properties that have not made assessment payments since the inception of the LMD. Smith provided lists of owing parcels to the steering committee. Smith requested that if the steering committee is aware of any additional information that would assist the City in the collection efforts to please pass it along. Vice Chair Lumaguip provided the site address for one of the parcels located in the Barnes Lake Condos.

c) Lake Access Marking

As was discussed earlier in the evening, Smith requested that the Steering Committee members confer with their neighbors to pinpoint where they would like to see access to the lake from their properties. NWA will make an effort to ensure treatments are applied to those areas so that each resident along the lake shore has access to the open water for their recreational pursuits.

d) WALPA Annual Conference

Smith provided copies of the brochure and registration forms to the Steering Committee, stating that if anyone is interested, they should attend the two-day conference in Lake Chelan. The conference is scheduled for October 18-19, 2007, with free workshops held on the October 17th. For more information, please visit: <http://www.walpa.org/conference.htm>

VI. Adjournment

Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m. The next meeting will be a public forum held on September 12, 2007, at the Tumwater Methodist Church on Lake Park Drive.

Minutes submitted by: Dan Smith, Staff Representative

Minutes approved by: Barnes Lake Management District Steering Committee