

City of Tumwater
Barnes Lake Management District

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

December 10, 2008

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 December 10, 2008 at Tumwater City Hall.

II. Roll call

The following members were present: Chair Peterson, Vice-Chair Ron Lumaguip, Bill Baxter, Dana Day, Gary Bodeutsch, Bob Hayes, John Swander, Rosemary Walsh and Staff Representative Smith. Judith Loft was excused.

Doug Dorling, Northwest Aquatic Eco-Systems also attended.

III. Additions to the Meeting Agenda:

- ◇ Property Tax Revisions: Chair Peterson reported that after a recent appeal on property tax increases, she was informed that the methodologies used by Thurston County to assess values have changed. Following a brief discussion, Chair Peterson reported that she would collect more information to present at an upcoming meeting.

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

The November 2008 minutes were reviewed. After some discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

V. Open Issues

a) Lake Treatment Update

Doug Dorling, Northwest Aquatic Eco-Systems, reported on the status of treatments and vegetation removal.

NWA conducted the vegetation survey on Barnes Lake in June of this year using standard ecological sampling methods, the results of which will be presented in the forthcoming report. Assessing ~250 sampling locations, Dorling reported that there were no surprises in finding spatterdock and fragrant water lily as the predominant species. Brasenia and bladderwort, previously reported as growing concerns of emergent species, were found to be less prevalent than expected. Dorling also explained that the areas adjacent to the WSDOT Materials Lab and Daisy Lane contained the most abundant variety of species. This abundance will be challenging,

but not impossible, when selectively treating the non-native species. Dorling reported that they would continue to monitor the vegetative trends and provide treatment recommendations as necessary.

NWA is waiting for water levels to continue rising before attempting to remove the floating mats. NWA will utilize an aquatic rototiller to break up the mats, then hand remove the debris. To prevent transfer of vegetative debris to the City's stormwater system and receiving waters, NWA will place a screen across the outfall during the clean-up. Dorling expects that this would take place late December and be complete by mid-January.

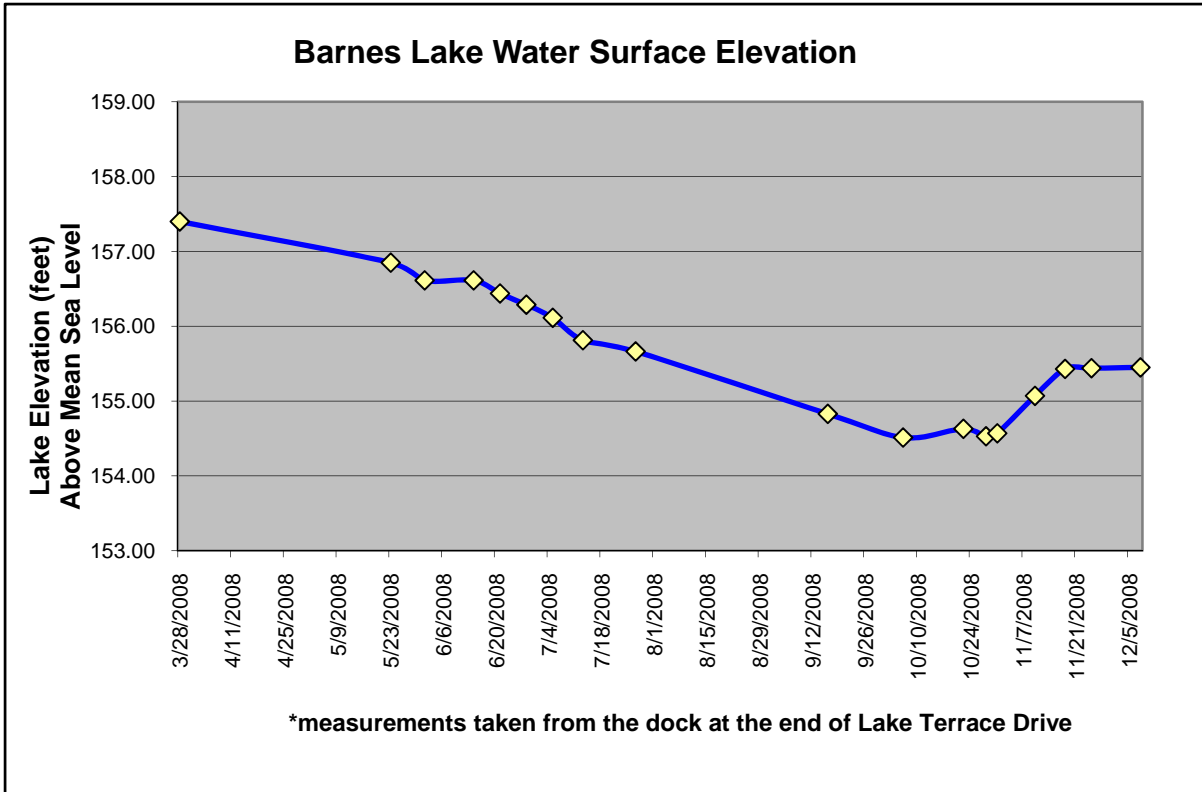
Dorling reported that the shoreline treatments appeared to be successful; however an increased outreach effort to homeowners along the shorelines is necessary in the coming year to ensure that the successes of past treatments continue to be effective. Dorling reported that improved communication between the homeowners and NWA will be helpful in meeting the needs of the homeowners and to ensure they are aware of the on-going maintenance requirements necessary to keep the shorelines free of debris. Gary Bodeutsch recommended that a formal notice be provided to all LMD members informing them of NWA's shoreline treatments and requesting they return an acknowledgment of their shorelines treatment needs.

Dorling reported that NWA has applied microbes to floating mats and a few localized shoreline areas to test the product's effectiveness at reducing the soft, organic sediments that exist. Results of the effectiveness will not be known for a few more months, as the microbes take time to complete their work.

b) Lake Level Update

Smith reported that the lake levels have been responding to the recent rains, gaining approximately one foot since the lowest levels in October. Bill Baxter continues to provide periodic reports of lake levels, the latest recorded on 12/8/08.

The Steering Committee discussed the potential for using this data to aid in the planning for a water level increase should the committee pursue improvements to the overflow "dam" at the outlet of the lake to raise water levels. Dorling suggested that such improvements would be of great benefit to the overall health of the lake and potentially decrease vegetation management needs. The Steering Committee may pursue this concept at a later date.



c) Budget and Assessment Update

As of 12/10/08, \$16,201 has been received to date from the collection of LMD assessments, including a payment from 2007 assessments. There are currently 9 parcels outstanding for 2008, six of which continue to owe for two or more years. The total amount outstanding for 2008 equals \$1,200. Three of the six properties have had liens filed previously; the remaining three parcels that owe for the last two years will have a similar action taken by the end of this year. Those property owners have been notified of the pending action.

There have been no expenses recorded in the last month; however additional funds are expected for assessment collection, Golder’s assessment and removal of floating mats before the end of the year. Smith reported that the assessment collection costs for the year will be paid to the City’s General Fund for administration of the program by the end of the year. For 2009, there will be an approximate 5% increase to the fees charged.

The available balance of LMD funds as of December 10, 2008 is \$29,910.

d) Work Plan Review

Smith reviewed the status of the work plan for the Barnes Lake Steering Committee for 2008. To date, all work has been completed. Smith is awaiting the final report from NWA which should include a statistical analysis of the vegetative quantities, prior to updating the information included in the IAVMP. Dorling reported that this report should be delivered to the City within the week.

Additional items were discussed and added to the work plan for 2008 and shall be carried over in 2009.

VI. New Issues

a) 2009 Work Plan and Budget Acceptance

Smith reviewed the draft work plan and budget with the Steering Committee. After discussion of items identified by Dorling, additions to the work plan were incorporated surrounding homeowner outreach as well as the development of a water quality monitoring program. Member Hayes made a motion to approve the work plan as amended. All were in favor of approving the 2009 Work Plan, directing Smith to present to the City Council in January.

Discussion on the 2009 Operating Budget focused on the line items and a reserve fund for a potential noxious weed identification and removal program. This line reserves \$8,000 for funding of this or other projects as determined by the Steering Committee at a later date. The total available revenue expected in 2009 is ~\$43,500 which includes the annual 2009 assessments of \$17,305 plus a carryover from 2008, estimated at ~\$26,000. Operating costs and administrative expenses are anticipated to equal revenue for 2009. Member Swander motioned to approve the Operating Budget for 2009. All were in favor and directed Smith to present the budget to City Council in January along with the work plan.

b) 2009 Meeting Date Review

The Steering Committee reviewed the proposed meeting dates for 2009. All were in favor and expected no major conflicts. For the January meeting, however, Chair Peterson, Judith Loft and John Swander will be unable to attend. Quorum was reviewed and the January meeting will still take place.

VII. Adjourn

Chair Peterson adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:30 p.m. The next steering committee meeting will be held on January 14, 2009, at Tumwater City Hall.

Minutes submitted by: Dan Smith, Staff Representative

Minutes approved by: Barnes Lake Management District Steering Committee