

## **Gig Harbor – May 10, 2006 Meeting Notes**

8 in attendance

**Gretchen Muller with NWF** provided information on Backyard Habitat Program.

- State and Federal joint application will be available soon through pilot project.
- Community habitat program enables people to work toward common goal.
- There are no restrictions to program for property owners. Just need to provide four basic needs (food, water, safety places and nesting habitat).
- Points for certification are not based on parcel size.
- How to start it? Call community meeting, fill out registration forms, set goals and submit form. Planning process in this area puts CV group ahead.

**Pierce County, Katherine Brooks:**

- Discussed zoning regulations vs. planning document - Zoning is required and Plan is desired.
- Question – How willing is County to enforce its regulations? Problem land owner was discussed. Katherine promised to look into issue.
- RSR zone requires Low Impact Development.
- Single Family (SF) developments are allowed to do more than what is restricted for subdivisions. For example, SF are exempt from vegetation retention. In Critical Areas Ordinance however, SF is not exempt from regulations.
- Suggests that CV plan be placed onto docket for Gig Harbor Community Plan update (in one year).
- Plan will probably be done by June 21. Meetings can continue.

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Michelle Tirhi:**

- Discussed two items to change under action items (prohibiting new roads in the BMA and lake restriction). Suggested that a wildlife survey be conducted instead to assess impacts to wildlife from boating activity.
- Group as asked to docket enforcement items.
- Housing density and septic systems and all associated development reduces wildlife once you hit 1 unit/10 acres.
- Density –group asked to vote on this (1 unit per 10 acres or 2 units per 10 acres)?
- Under action plans for Crescent Creek, add certify a predetermined amount of homes under the Back Yard Habitat program.
- It was noted by Liz Lathrop that Pierce County is purchasing riparian areas under stormwater fees.

**Next tasks-**

- 1) Scientifically adjust BMA based on life cycle studies (Michelle).
- 2) BMA maps (Katherine).
- 3) How many lots in BMA are big enough to divide for 2 homes? (Katherine).
- 4) Is there a state law to restrict livestock from creek? (Michelle).
- 5) Obtain farm plan language on livestock from PCCD (Marian).