Skagit County Conservation Futures Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

May 9, 2017

Members Attendance

Scott DeGraw Wendy Pare Keith Wiggers
Owen Peth Steve Sakuma Andrea Xaver

Members Absent

Mike Hulbert

Staff and Others in Attendance

Kara Symonds, Skagit County Public Works Dan Berentson, Skagit County Public Works

Scott called the meeting to order at 7:00 AM

Member Update

Wendy shared that the Skagit Conservation District has hired a new manager, Bill Blake. Bill worked at the City of Arlington prior to the SCD. Kara shared information about Linda's retirement events. The Board of County Commissioner's is hosting a recognition event on 3/22 at 11:00 a.m. Keith shared he was recently in Columbia and astounded by the agriculture found on steep slopes, such as coffee and potatoes.

Meeting Minutes

Wendy moved to approve the April 11, 2017 meeting minutes and Andrea seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Mountain View Dairy

The CFAC discussed an article that Linda shared with the group. It involves the PCC Farmland Trust. They are a nonprofit arm of PCC Natural Markets. The Trust is seeking to implement their Buy-Protect-Sell strategy with this farm, which includes outright acquisition, then placing conservation easements while they lease the land, then selling the land with the protections in place.

Miller Amendment

Kara shared a map of the Miller easement and discussed the proposed amendment. Kara is meeting with a USDA representative in May to discuss amendment procedures.

July Meeting

Kara shared that she will be unable to attend the July meeting; the group was ok with cancelling the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 AM