



**Determination of a Quorum/ Welcome**

We have a Quorum.

**Public Comments**

No public comments at this time.

**Announcements**

No announcements at this time.

**Approval of Minutes - March**

Jen motioned to approve the March meeting minutes. Sean seconded. **The motion passed with all in favor.**

**Discussion Items/Business**Bolt Property Application

Becky reviewed the Bolt application and asked the Committee if they would be willing to use Conservation Futures Funding for 100% of the easement acquisition, due to the need to speed the application along and work with County Public Works River and Flood Division. Chris proposed requesting that River and Flood include funding for PDR easements in a future floodplain grant application. Sean motioned that we approve the 100% use of Conservation Futures Funds and make the above mentioned request to River and Flood. Jen seconded. **The motion passed with all in favor.**

Review Proposed Code and Guideline Changes

Becky summarized the past discussions had on the proposed code and guideline changes and stated the remaining issues to clarify are the priority area maps. Becky explained the proposed changes to the maps when utilizing the 2019 Landscape Analysis data. The Committee agreed to the following priority map changes:

- Exclude Urban Growth Areas and Commercial Forestry Zoning from all priority area maps.
- Merge the existing Agricultural Priority Area map with the Agricultural Landscape Analysis Medium to High data.
- Use the existing Forestry Priority Area map.
- Merge the existing Ecological Priority Area map with the Agricultural Landscape Analysis Medium to High data.

Jen motioned to approve the proposed code and guideline changes. Sean seconded. **The motion passed with all in favor.**

Paul suggested meeting with Becky to discuss presenting these changes to Council and allowing for private conversations with Councilmembers who want more discussion.

### Outreach Strategy

Becky reviewed the scope of work in the 2021 Geo 5 Designs (formerly Unique Places) contract, which includes conservation grant assistance and development of a promotional video. Additional tasks need to be defined and added to the contract by the end of the year. Committee members will discuss ideas for additional tasks at the next meeting.

### Agricultural Mitigation Update

Becky gave an update of the agricultural mitigation discussion that occurred at the April Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting. Whatcom County will look at what other counties have done to address this topic and will discuss at the next Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting.

### Discuss Water Rights and Relinquishment Report

Chris gave a summary of Whatcom County's involvement in pursuing the establishment of a water bank. Currently the County is waiting on direction from the Watershed Improvement Districts and will need urging to serve a leadership role.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- Review New Applications
- Conservation Futures Fund Process Update
- Outreach Strategy

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, June 4, 2021, 8:30-10:00 AM. This will be an online meeting only.

**Meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.**