

Vector and Code Enforcement Advisory Committee Minutes

SE Health Center, November 20, 2007, 1-3 PM

ELECTION: CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

09/18/07 MINUTES

MOTION: Motion was made to approve 9/18/07 minutes

SECOND: Motion was seconded.

MOTION PASSED

SUPPORT FOR VECTOR AND NUISANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Lila Wickham provided an update. The grant that funded Kari Lyons to facilitate the VNAC expired. A new grant was received from the Center for Disease Control. It funds the Environmental Health Educator role to focus on improving the health of housing and does not support the Vector and Environmental general health education functions that were previously supported by Kari. MC remains committed to supporting the VNAC. Lila asked for the most valued support functions. Members presented the following desires:

- Recruitment of new members

- Development of field trips and orientation tools (reduce paper, appreciate maps)

- Designated contact person and all contacts by area of expertise

- Coordination of education and outreach conducted by VNAC members

- Reminder of meetings and meeting materials

General comments:

- Expressed a desire for to maintain support and capacity for general environmental health and vector control.
- A committee member mentioned that the El Programa Hispanco is a great resource for Spanish outreach and education.
- Suggest advertising for new committee members
- Suggest revising bylaws to allow for continuation on the committee if desired.

Urban Wildlife presentation by Bob Sallinger, Audubon Society. (Power point handouts available if requested).

Sprawl is creating a significant reduction in species due to loss of habitat. Neotropical species are particularly vulnerable. There are over 6,000 imperiled species; 31% are found exclusively in metro areas. Cats are a major source of injury to urban wildlife. The major cause of conflict is people deliberately feeding animals or indirectly feeding animals by leaving pet food available. Relocation from a policy perspective is not supported by Audubon because it does not address the root cause of the issue.

Educational strategies that are framed in the context of the overall issues should be created and disseminated:

- Contain sprawl, keep cats indoors, do not directly or indirectly feed urban wildlife, don't relocate.

Bat Biology by Susan Barnes, Oregon Fish and Wildlife. (Power point handouts available if requested).

Oregon conservation strategies are located at www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy

Major strategies include:

Maintain and create large tree snags

Complete bridge replacement and maintenance when bats are not present

Provide food, water and roosting sites

All of Oregon's bats consume insects. Bat population is reduced by loss of habitat with specific emphasis on loss of old large tree snags and disturbance of bats roosting sites.

Rabies in Bats, Chris Wirth Multnomah County Vector Control

Presented communicable disease response and algorithm for human exposure to bats.

TOPOFF Overview presented by Lila Wickham, Gary Oxman, Jessica Vorpahl

The national exercise focusing on disbursement of radiological materials showed good coordination between various agencies (Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Radiological Emergency Management, Department of Energy, state and local jurisdictions) went well. Preparation and response continues to improve.

Next Meeting:

January 15th, 2008 Southeast Health Center

Suggested topics:

Budget

Vector and Vulnerable Populations

Homeless (Kim Tierney) and Elderly (Aging Services)