

ForeverGreen Board Meeting
November 8, 2006
Tacoma Metro Parks Headquarters

Attended: Ernie Bay (Rails to Trails), Bryan Bowden (Mt. Rainier National Park), Ron Ernst (Tacoma Rail), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Kirk Kirkland (Tahoma Audubon), Jane Moore, M.D. (WA St. Coalition for Physical Activity), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Sumner Parks Board).

Minutes Taken by: Jayme Gordon.

Open and Introduction: 12:06 p.m. The meeting began with round table introductions and sharing of information.

- Ron: The rails-with-trails feasibility study on the Tacoma Rail line continues and is coming along well. Recent workshops have been productive in terms of addressing some of the details, e.g. width constraints.
- John: Asked Ron if the Foothills Coalition newsletter could run an article on the rails-with-trails; Ron requested that they hold off on that for now. The Cascade Land Conservancy's luncheon went fantastically well, with 630 people in attendance and \$120,000 raised in contributions. CLC will soon be opening an office in Mason County and is looking into developing a wetland bank.
- Jayme: Met with the city of Fife's park director and community development director to discuss trails. The city will be updating their transportation and park comp plans in 2007, and a trailhead is still planned at the site of the former soccer complex which will serve as a connection to the Interurban Trail spur coming down through Milton and Edgewood. Also, will try to respond to a request from the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation to send project photos for a presentation they are putting together.
- Bryan: Reported that 230 people attended the Washington State Trails Conference Nov. 3-4. There was broad stakeholder representation, good sessions, and was a successful event. He made some good contacts with Thurston Co. trail people.
- Jane: Enjoyed WA Trails Conference in Yakima. Representing the Washington State Physical Activity Coalition, she will be making presentations on how community comp plans need to include non-motorized transportation plans. She is also working with the Pierce Co. Medical Society on the "Healthy Pierce County" program, which will probably pilot in the Gig Harbor area.
- Ernie: Also thought the trails conference was very good. He's been impressed with the trail building in Puyallup, and mentioned that the National Rails-to-Trails Conservancy meeting will be in Portland next year.
- Kirk: Has talked with Markus Dennis and Scott Gallacher, both of whom agreed to chair the Trails Advisory Committee; one of them will be elected at the next TAC meeting. He has also had a meeting with Roger Bush, who agreed to include money in next year's county budget to help with the rails-with-trails project.
- Barbara: Happy to report that her home survived the recent floods.

Approval of Minutes

- John requested that the wording in his entry of the *Open and Introduction* section of the October board meeting minutes be corrected to show that "...PC Parks has put funds in their 2008 budget proposal stewardship of Carbon River Valley properties," *not* "Cascade Land Conservancy properties" as originally written.
- Barbara motioned and Jane seconded approval of the October board meeting minutes, with the correction stated above. The motion passed unanimously.

Finances:

- Jayme presented a revised budget that incorporated suggestions and corrections made at the October board meeting.
- John suggested that we ask local cities for annual contributions – ex. \$0.10 per person in each municipality.
- Barbara motioned and Ernie seconded approval to adopt the 2007 budget. The motion passed unanimously.

Trails Assistance Office Funding:

- Barbara will make a follow-up phone call to the Sequoia Foundation once we have sent the grant proposal.

Sales Tax For Trails Proposal:

- The proposal has been revised so that cities will receive a larger portion and the granting board will have greater city representation.
- The group behind the proposal is now ready to enter the outreach stage and will be asking for support from city managers and mayors at the Pierce County cities and towns meeting in January.
- John is working on an article about how real estate values go up 15% when next to a trail.

Annual Meeting/Trails Conference:

- Discussion took place regarding catering, costs, invitation wording, etc.
- Thurston Co. trail planners will be asked to give a presentation since Washington Water Trails had to back out.
- Park directors of adjacent counties should be added to the invite list.
- Barbara suggested asking REI for sponsorship to help cover some of the conference costs.

Officer Elections:

- The proposed slate of officers for 2007 is: Barbara Skinner (president), Ernie Bay (vice president), and Kirk Kirkland (secretary-treasurer). Ron motioned and Jane seconded approval of this slate of officers. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Markus Dennis will be asked to be a ForeverGreen board member.
- There was some discussion about adding an amendment to the bylaws to accommodate a 1st vice president and a 2nd vice president position.

Board Retreat:

- The board decided to hold the 2007 retreat on the same day as the regularly scheduled January board meeting (Jan. 10), from 12-4 p.m.
- Kirk offered to try to reserve the conference space at the Tahoma Audubon's Kobiyashi property in University Place for the retreat.

Closing Comments:

- There will be a December board meeting. The idea to have a more festive, holiday spirited meeting was suggested and met with approval. The location for this meeting was not decided at this time, but it will be from 3-5 p.m., instead of the regular 12-1:30 p.m. timeframe.
- Ernie said that the Riverwalk Trail in Puyallup survived the early November floods relatively well.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, November 13, 3-5:00 p.m., at the David Evans & Assoc. board room.