

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting**  
**July 8, 2009**  
**Tacoma Metro Parks, Tacoma**  
**12:00 to 1:30 p.m.**

**Attended:** Ernie Bay, Bryan Bowden, Brianna Charbonnel, Skip Ferrucci, Jayme Gordon, Kirk Kirkland, Jane Moore, John Olson, and Barbara Skinner.

**Minutes Taken by:** Jayme Gordon. President Jane Moore opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- *Kirk motioned to approve the June board meeting minutes as written. Barbara seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*

**Finances:**

- Jayme presented an invoice from the Pierce Conservation District for her second quarter salary, mileage, and copies. Total invoice was \$1,408.99. *Barbara motioned to pay the invoice as presented. Ernie seconded and the motion passed unanimously.*
- Jayme reported that ForeverGreen has been granted \$4,000 from the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation's *Spring 2009 Vibrant Community Grantmaking Program*. She shared a copy of the award letter, which stressed that the Foundation would like to see the ForeverGreen board take "actionable steps to move the trail system forward" and that they would also like to see "measurable outcomes" from our annual trails conference in the grant report. John requested that a copy of this be sent to the board.
- John also suggested that we have an annual report written by the trails conference later this year. Barbara thought that the budget and finance committee could help develop the annual report.
- Barbara asked what the annual base funding is for ForeverGreen. According to the 2009 budget, around \$21,000.
- Kirk suggested soliciting funds from organizations such as the Foothills Coalition and the Tacoma Wheelmen to help pay for a lobbyist to continue to work on the trails funding legislation. By making a financial contribution, these other groups would also be on board with political support. Kirk volunteered to reach out with this request.
- To help fund the annual trails conference, ForeverGreen should seek sponsorships. (Note: there will not be a 2010 Pierce County trails conference, in lieu of the Washington State Trails Conference being held in Tacoma that year.)
- Skip noted that P.C. Parks may have to reduce their budget by 15%, which would reduce or eliminate their annual contribution to ForeverGreen. Losing this funding would definitely affect ForeverGreen's base funding for 2010.
- It was decided that the budget and finance committee would meet on July 15 at 12 p.m. at Freighthouse Square. Kirk, Barbara, Jane, and John volunteered to be on this committee.

**Old Business:**

- Trails Advisory Committee Meeting – Possible topics for the TAC meeting include: trail award nominees, trail funding legislation update, P.C. trails conference agenda. The

meeting room at the REI Tacoma store is available September 9, 21-22, and 28-29. Jayme will work with Tim to chose a date and send out meeting notices.

- Long-Range Plan for Open Space – Kirk will try to get an article in the Audubon newsletter about an upcoming hearing on August 17. This hearing is for a resolution being developed between Pierce County Parks and the Pierce County Council to work with a National Park Service planning grant to develop a priority spending plan for open space. Kirk will also solicit letters of support for the grant application to the National Park Service.
- Puyallup-Tacoma Trail – No update.
- Annual Trails Conference – A committee met on June 24 to begin planning the 2009 Pierce County Trails Conference. The date of the conference has been changed to Thursday, November 12, due to a change in venue availability. The committee proposes an opening panel of 4-5 trail update presentations, followed by three breakout session topics; each breakout session will be given twice. This means fewer but longer breakout sessions. The conference will conclude with ForeverGreen elections, trail award presentations, and a keynote speaker during dinner. Another conference planning meeting is scheduled to directly follow today's board meeting.
- Other – Ernie gave an update on the Puyallup Riverwalk-Foothills Trail connection. BNSF wants to require construction of a shed to protect trail users from the railroad, and Puyallup Parks is willing to accommodate this request. The levee from the railroad tracks to the Foothills trailhead on 134<sup>th</sup> is in good enough shape to use as the trail route. However, funding for this project has run out and the money will probably have to be returned to the RCO.
- Other – Jane and Kirk met with the Pierce County Executive's office regarding incorporation of a trail into the realignment of I-5 at exit 135. Pierce County is willing to work with WADOT to include trails in this work.

#### **New Business:**

- Other – Bryan asked if there has been any follow-up with the Foothills Coalition since ForeverGreen spoke at their board meeting earlier this year. John said he has asked the Foothills president (John Downs) if ForeverGreen could be put on their upcoming agenda, but was deterred until there is a pertinent topic for ForeverGreen to share. *John motioned to offer standing positions on the ForeverGreen board to the presidents of the Foothills Coalition and the Tacoma Wheelmen. Barbara seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.*

#### **Information Sharing:**

- Ernie: Invited anyone interested to attend a walking tour of the Gale Creek Canyon on July 11.
- Jane: Announced there will be a meeting later today at the Tacoma City Council about the new rail line between D and M Streets.

**Meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.**

**The next board meeting will be Wednesday, September 9, 12-1:30 p.m. at the Tacoma Metro Parks headquarters.**