

ForeverGreen Board Meeting
April 12, 2006
Tacoma Metro Parks Headquarters

Attended: Ernie Bay (Foothills Trails Coalition), Bryan Bowden (Mt. Rainier National Park), Van Collins (Assoc. General Contractors), Markus Dennis (Foothills Trails Coalition/Rainier to Ruston), Skip Ferrucci (P.C. Parks, for Kathy Kravit-Smith), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Kirk Kirkland (Tahoma Audubon), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Retired, Mayor of Sumner), Jan Wolcott (Retired, P.C. Parks)

Minutes Taken by: Jayme Gordon

Open and Introduction: 12:05 p.m. The meeting began with round table introductions and sharing of information.

- Ernie: Puyallup is still negotiating with property owner for some land near Stortini's bridge.
- Bryan: The Washington Trails Conference has been scheduled for November 3 & 4 in Yakima. It is being hosted by the Washington State Trails Coalition.
- Jayme: Handed out invitations to the Pierce Co. Health and Activity Coalition's "Let's Walk" breakfast, May 5, 2006. They have asked that ForeverGreen make one of the featured presentations.
- Barbara: The city of Sumner is making progress on a section of trail at the north end of town that crosses a bridge over the river. At the city's wastewater treatment plant, about 2,500' of trail will be built to meet with Stortini's bridge at the Puyallup city limits. Also, plans are in the works to build a section of trail along Valley Ave. and connect with the Foothills Trail.
- John: The Cascade Land Conservancy has an option on the Puget Sound Energy property along the White River. Because public money is being used for purchase, there will be public access (i.e. trails). CLC is holding their annual Conservation Awards Breakfast on May 16, and work continues on the Cascade Agenda initiative. John passed out a form for the Community Conservation Initiative, whereby CLC is soliciting project ideas from the public. John also announced that he ran for a position on the Pierce Conservation District's Board of Supervisors and was waiting to hear results of the election.

Finances:

- The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation provided an end-of-the-year report for 2005, as well as an interim financial statement requested by Jayme that went from Jan. 1- Mar. 15 of this year. A 2005 contribution from Tacoma Metro Parks, in the amount of \$5,000, was not deposited in the GTCF account until Jan. 4, 2006.
- A 6-month grant report is due to the GTCG on May 1.

Rainier-to-Ruston Race and National Trails Day:

- Markus Dennis, director for the Rainier-to-Ruston race, gave a presentation about this year's race and invited ForeverGreen to participate in the event in a manner of our choosing.
- This will be the fourth year this race has been put on, the second as a public event. Each year has seen growth, but it is expected to really take off this year; there has been strong, widespread advertising and many well-known companies have signed on as sponsors.
- This is one of the only trail runs in the country to be held on National Trail Day! It was also featured in a March 9, 2006, News Tribune article as one of the Top 10 races in Washington State.
- ForeverGreen was invited to participate in the event in a number of ways: field a team to run the race, man a water station, have an information booth at the finish, give a speech in recognition of National Trails Day, etc. It is up to the board to define what ForeverGreen's participation will be.

Trails Advisory Committee (TAC):

- The first TAC meeting is scheduled for April 19. At the time of the board meeting, 21 invitees had r.s.v.p.'ed.
- In general, the meeting will consist of a powerpoint presentation to give a general overview of ForeverGreen, explain the role and function of the TAC, and wrap up with a general discussion about the kinds of topics the TAC will be asked to work on.
- The importance of having board members attend this meeting was stressed.

Committee Reports:

- Draft work plans for the following committees were handed out for review: Executive, Outreach & Public Relations, Strategic Planning, and Events. Draft work plans are still needed from the Budget, Membership & Nominations, and TAC committees.
- There were no suggested changes to the Executive and Strategic Planning Committee work plans.
- There was an overlap between the Events and Outreach work plans, which both included National Trails Day.
- Two items were suggested as additions to the Outreach work plan: 1) Write and send press releases on behalf of ForeverGreen, and 2) Coordinate with all other committees to assist with outreach and public relations.
- Clarification was asked for who the current members of the Outreach committee are. Answer: Bryan, Jayme, John, and Dave. In general, it was asked that we confirm who the current members are of all the committees.
- Draft work plans of all the committees should be submitted to the board via email, with the expectation that with appropriate review, the board will take action to adopt these plans at the next available opportunity.
- Kirk said that he is planning to approach Dr. Jane Moore M.D. (PC Health & Activity Coalition) and Ron Ernst (Tacoma Rail) as future board members.

Funding For 2007:

- Kirk is working on identifying grant sources and financial contributions.
- The Pierce Conservation District has agreed to provide office space and administrative overhead as the Trails Assistance Office (TAO) gets going.
- Bryan, Kirk, and Jayme are beginning to draft job descriptions for the first couple of positions needed for the TAO. Priority positions at this point seem to be a program manager and right of way agent.

Valley Cities Trail Meeting:

- Jayme discussed a meeting planned for May 4 between King and Pierce County cities (Tukwila to Fife). ForeverGreen is sponsoring this meeting, and interested board members are encouraged to attend.

ForeverGreen Presentations:

- Presentations have been given recently to the Puyallup city council and Sumner Rotary club.
- In Puyallup, presenters got the sense that the city is kind of pre-occupied with its own plans and appears rather self-contained. Although they were respectful and attentive, they didn't ask a lot of questions.
- The presentation received a good reception at the Sumner Rotary club.
- We still need to schedule presentations with the following cities: Tacoma, Gig Harbor, University Place, and Eatonville.
- Jayme is working to set up a presentation with the Pierce Co. YMCA Health and Wellness cabinet.
- Markus Dennis offered to make arrangements for ForeverGreen to have a booth at the Ashford-Mountain Festival during the third week in August. Contact him (or Jeremy Foust, event coordinator) for more information.

Meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, May 10, 12-1:30 p.m. at the Tacoma Metro Parks headquarters.