

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting**  
**December 13, 2006**  
**David Evans & Associates**

**Attended:** Ron Ernst (Tacoma Rail), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Grant Griffin (Pierce Co. Parks), 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:** 3:30 p.m. The meeting began with round table introductions and sharing of information.

- Grant: Condemnation has been filed on the Post property, which is one of the pieces in the South Prairie-Buckley section of the Foothills Trail. The flooding and bad weather in November caused damage to part of the Trail in the Carbon River bridge area. Public hearings were recently held on Phase 2 of the Cushman Trail; the city of Gig Harbor is transitioning into the lead role for this project. Grant has also been working on a report on trail bollards.
- John: The Cascade Land Conservancy (CLC) recently received a \$1 million grant from the Bullitt Foundation for the *Cascade Agenda* program. The city of Tacoma is preparing to become the first “Cascade Agenda City” in January. CLC will be working with the city and Metro Parks on the Water Ditch Trail. There will be a “Conservation Initiatives” forum at the Landmark Convention Center in Tacoma on January 5.
- Ron: The rails-with-trails feasibility study on the Tacoma Rail line is scheduled to be completed in March.
- Jane: The Washington Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity will hold their annual meeting on May 1 & 2 at the Center at Norpoint; the theme will be “Beyond Obesity.” The Pierce County Medical Society board has authorized funding in '07 for a community health improvement office.
- Jayme: IAC will be holding a meeting at the downtown Tacoma library on Dec. 14 to solicit input on a ranking system for local and regional recreation facilities. Also, she passed along a message from Kirk that he will be working on a ForeverGreen website while he is in Florida this month.
- Barbara: There was some flood damage (e.g. scouring) to a portion of Sumner’s White River Trail. A plan is in the works to connect Sumner and Puyallup’s trails at the Mama Stortini’s restaurant. Auburn and Sumner are in talks to form a committee to meet once a month to discuss trails (Pacific will also be included).

**Approval of Minutes**

- There were no changes to the November board meeting minutes.
- Ron motioned and Jane seconded approval of the November board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Finances:**

- Jayme presented costs associated with the Trail Conference/Annual Meeting:  
\$1,317.25      Catering  
\$87.36          Copying  
\$33.15          Postage  
\$7.70           Miscellaneous  
The total came to \$1,445.96, which was below the \$1,500 budgeted for this event.
- The Pierce County Council has budgeted \$15,000 for ForeverGreen in their 2007 budget.
- Barbara related a conversation she had with Pat Johnson (mayor of Buckley) at the Annual Meeting regarding city contributions to ForeverGreen. The mayor said that smaller cities have no slush fund and very tight budgets, which would make it difficult or impossible to contribute to ForeverGreen. Barbara still feels that using a formula such as the Puget Sound Regional Council uses to determine member dues is the reasonable way to go, and she will be working on a letter to the cities to this effect.
- It was determined that a finance committee is needed to develop a business plan and budget. As secretary-treasurer, Kirk will chair this committee. Grant and John also volunteered to help. They will begin meeting as soon as Kirk returns from vacation.

**Annual Meeting/Trails Conference:**

- Discussion was held about the Annual Meeting & Pierce County Trails Conference. Attendance at the start of the meeting was estimated at 100, and general feedback from attendees was very positive. Board member comments included:
  1. Start planning earlier.
  2. Confirm speakers and their topics sooner.
  3. Provide a speaker's outline or packet (Grant provided some examples).
  4. Grant provided an example of event checklist/to do list.
  5. Check laptop/computer equipment and speakers' presentations beforehand.
  6. Separate ForeverGreen Annual Meeting from rest of conference.
  7. Incorporate more social/networking time.
  8. Provide table favors, door prizes, etc. Consider handing out awards.
  9. Keep breakout session facilitators.
  10. UPS was a good facility, but we needed to get into rooms sooner to set up and test presentation equipment. Look into PLU, Pierce College, TCC for next year.
  11. Food was good.
  12. Charge for registration/dinner.
  13. Provide a featured attraction during dinner.
  14. Director of Edgewood Public Works requested that the Interurban Spur trail running through their city be represented when ForeverGreen updates their trail map.

**Trails Advisory Committee Chair/Board Member:**

- Per Ernie Bay, Markus Dennis has accepted the offer to join the ForeverGreen board. This leaves Key Peninsula Metro Parks Director Scott Gallacher as the other interested party for the Trails Advisory Committee Chair.
- The board will need to formally elect Markus to the board at the January retreat.

**Annual Operating Cycle:**

- Jayme presented a revised copy of the annual operating cycle for 2007 (see attached). There were no comments.
- It will be presented at the board retreat for approval.

**Board Retreat:**

- Reminder: The 2007 board retreat will be held on the same day as the regularly scheduled January board meeting (Jan. 10), from 12-4 p.m.
- Agenda topics discussed for the board retreat included:
  1. Review short and long term goals.
  2. Business plan.
  3. Board member orientation.
  4. Board membership.
  5. Trail map revisions.
- Please send additional agenda items to Jayme as soon as possible. The executive committee will determine the final agenda.

**Closing Comments:**

- Thanks were given to Ron for arranging the meeting space and suggesting the holiday treats.
- John said he will touch base with Monty Mahan regarding the Pierce Conservation District's increased assessment opportunity.
- Over the course of next year, Grant said he would be meeting with park department personnel from adjacent counties.

**Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.**

**The ForeverGreen board retreat will be held January 10, 12-4 p.m. in lieu of a board meeting. Location of the board retreat will be coming shortly.**