

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting**  
**June 14, 2006**  
**Tacoma Metro Parks Headquarters**

**Attended:** Ernie Bay (Foothills Trails Coalition), Van Collins (Association of General Contractors), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Grant Griffin (PC Parks and Recreation), Jane Moore, M.D. (WCPPA), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Retired, Mayor of Sumner), Lois Stark (Tacoma Metro Parks).

**Minutes Taken by:** Jayme Gordon.

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

- Barbara: The trail at Sumner's wastewater treatment plant has been finished and is now completed to the Puyallup River bridge. Barbara passed around a copy of the East Pierce County Chamber of Commerce magazine, which featured a very nice, multi-page article on the Foothills Trail. She also brought in a GIS map produced jointly by Auburn and Sumner as a result of ForeverGreen's coordination.
- Grant: Shared information about the "Run With the Salmon" race and annual meeting/trail conference location (see below for details). Also reported that the county is continuing to try and make progress on the next phases of the Foothills Trail.
- Lois: Reported that Tacoma Metro Parks has pledged some money as potential match for Tacoma trail projects. Together with Pierce County and Tacoma Water, Tacoma Metro Parks has hired a consultant to begin a feasibility study on the Cross County Commuter Connector Trail (a.k.a. the Pipeline Trail). One issue that's already surfaced is the use of the right-of-way by residents to access their homes. Finally, a pedestrian and bicycle tunnel is being constructed under S. 19<sup>th</sup> St. as part of the Hwy. 16 work. Tacoma is still trying to figure out safe ways to direct users of the trail to the city's surface streets.
- John: The Cascade Land Conservancy is working on the purchase and sale agreement for the Puget Sound Energy property along the White River in the next few weeks. They are in need of about \$25 million to complete the agreement. He also reminded everyone that the Conservation Futures will begin meeting again soon.
- Jayme: The Pierce Conservation District offices are currently in a temporary move situation. When the purchase is complete and the new office permitted for occupation, they will be located at: 5430 66<sup>th</sup> Ave. E. (about a ½ mile south of River Road). In the interim, Jayme can be reached via e-mail or by cell phone (253) 278-4320.
- Ernie: Construction bids are supposed to open on 7/14/06 for the next phase of the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail. The Foothills Rails-to-Trails booth is back at the Puyallup Farmer's Market on Saturdays. Ernie has a video tour of the Tolt Pipeline Trail that he will make into DVD's and share with anyone who is interested.

**Finances:**

- Jayme has sent in funding requests to both Tacoma Metro Parks and the city of Sumner. She has not yet heard a reply.
- Our second quarter account statement should be arriving from the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation soon.
- Barbara has drafted a letter to the cities we have given our ForeverGreen presentation to, to follow up on funding requests.

**Run With the Salmon race:**

- Grant reported that he will be working with the mayors of South Prairie and Buckley to plan the race for next year.
- Ernie then announced that very recent developments indicate that Markus Dennis and the Foothills Trail Coalition will be working with South Prairie to put on the race this fall.
- ForeverGreen would like to officially offer help in publicizing the race to the local press. Jayme will contact Markus Dennis to discuss this offer in more detail.
- John brought up the opportunity for synergy if we can coordinate the race with the Conservation District's salmon event in South Prairie, tentatively scheduled for late September.

**Trails Assistance Office Funding:**

- Kirk has drafted a grant proposal, and Jayme will be working on grants from the Sequoia Foundation and the Ben B. Cheney Foundation.
- John suggested also looking into the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation grant and the using the Center for Non-Profits as a resource. Jayme will contact REI about possible grant opportunities.
- Grant reported that Pierce County Parks has included a request for a ½ FTE grant writer in their budget for next year.

**Annual Meeting/Trails Conference:**

- Planning for this is on hold until we have confirmed a meeting location. A decision on whether we can use the Meridian Habitat Park facility on South Hill has been delayed. Barbara expressed frustration about this and was encouraged to contact Kathy and see if there is any way to find out sooner if we can reserve a date for our annual meeting/trails conference at this site.

**Trails Advisory Committee Meeting:**

- Jayme reminded everyone that the next TAC meeting is set for September 21 at the Snake Lake Nature Center. She will be sending out reminders and agendas in late August/early September. All board members are requested to be there.

- Tentative topics for the TAC meeting are: review trail guidelines currently under development by Pierce County Parks, prioritize the grant project list, and elect a chair.
- John suggested hanging maps showing a variety of different jurisdiction's trail plans as something for the TAC to sink their teeth into.

#### **Newsletter/Brochures:**

- Jayme passed out copies of the ForeverGreen brochure and asked for any comments or suggested changes before our next print run. Board members suggested the following:
- Include contact info (phone, email, website) and date of publication.
- Update map and use conventional keys in the legend (e.g. completed trail sections should be solid, planned sections should be dashed, completed trail sections should be heavy, dark and obvious, etc.).
- Correct the name of the "Chehalis Western Trail."

#### **ForeverGreen Presentations:**

- Jayme reported on the presentation she gave to the YMCA Wellness Cabinet on June 15. They offered to help or give more support if requested.
- No other presentations are scheduled at this time.

#### **Closing Comments:**

- John wants to see a push for the connection between Tacoma and Puyallup (along River Road) to be a priority.
- John also solicited messages for him to take to the environmental roundtable meeting with Executive Ladenburg. Barbara asked John to ask Ladenburg to be more aggressive in pushing trails.

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

**There will be NO BOARD MEETING IN AUGUST.**

**The next board meeting will be Wednesday, September 13, 12-1:30 p.m. at the Tacoma Metro Parks headquarters.**