

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting
October 11, 2006
Tacoma Metro Parks Headquarters**

Attended: Ron Ernst (Tacoma Rail), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Kirk Kirkland (Tahoma Audubon), Terry Lee (Pierce County Council), Jane Moore, M.D. (WA St. Coalition for Physical Activity), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Retired, Mayor of Sumner).

Minutes Taken by: Jayme Gordon.

Open and Introduction: 12:05 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.
- John: Approx. 700 acres have been added to the Carbon River Canyon area, and PC Parks has put funds in their 2008 budget proposal stewardship of Carbon River Valley properties. The section of the Rails-to-Trails trail through Wilkeson is pretty much completed and in use. The Thompson property acquisition is almost ready to go and CLC is considering making the initial purchase.
- Jayme: Filing our annual report as a non-profit with the Secretary of State. The “Run With the Salmon” race had a small turn-out but good community support.
- Terry: Phase 2 of the Cushman Trail will connect with the new YMCA and hospital in north Gig Harbor; construction of this section of trail will probably require wetland mitigation. Terry is working on acquiring about 10 acres currently used for the new bridge construction that would become a trailhead for the Cushman Trail. He is also working with Tacoma Power on the use of 40 acres as a beach head access at the east end of the Trail. The Pierce County Council plans to approve next year’s budget before Thanksgiving and he will try to include some funding for ForeverGreen. The Council is also in the process of considering the Pierce Conservation District’s assessment renewal. The Council just passed a traffic impact fee that will raise \$200 million over 20 years, and some of that money may be used to fund non-motorized transportation improvements. Three miles of trail should be ready to open at the Chambers Bay golf course in March. The search is on for funding to connect the trail to the nearby fishing pier.
- Jane: Participated in the Point Defiance Forest planning charrette. One significant decision to come out of that process is a recommendation to keep 5-Mile Drive closed to vehicles more often. The Pierce Co. Physical Activity Coalition is working on a template for walking guides for local communities. She passed around an example from Clark County. Jane was going to attend the “Missing Links” discussion on Oct. 11, facilitated by the Active Transportation group for a discussion on trails in the central Puget Sound area.

Approval of Minutes

- Barbara motioned and Terry seconded approval of the September board meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Finances:

- Jayme distributed a draft budget for discussion. She will redraft the budget based on formatting suggestions and other corrections pointed out by board members.
- Other budget comments included the following: Ron said that Tacoma may be able to pay for the brochure printing; we should consider new funding options such as donations from trail supporting businesses; those attending the state trails conference should network for grant funding opportunities; and we need to do the ask for contributions from other cities – Sumner shouldn't be the only one contributing to our budget.

Trails Advisory Committee Meeting:

- A recap of the Sept. 21 TAC meeting was given. Topics covered at the meeting included Parametrix's Rails-with-Trails presentation, trail standards, and the trail project list. A committee chair was not elected.
- Caril Ridley, Key Peninsula Metro Parks board member sent Jayme an email expressing her desire to be on the TAC. After some discussion, it was decided that the TAC would continue to be made up of invited participants. Ms. Ridley will be put on the TAC mailing list and an alternates list, but not an official member at this time.
- It was also suggested that we include an open public comment period at the end of the TAC agenda.

Trails Assistance Office Funding:

- Kirk, Barbara, Bryan, and Jayme are continuing to work on the Sequoia Foundation grant application.
- Karlan Jessen (REI) has nominated ForeverGreen for the company's employee grant program.

Sales Tax For Trails Proposal:

- Kirk presented a proposal that will be turned into legislation for approval to take a 0.1% sales tax increase to Pierce County voters (see attached).
- Barbara asked about how much money each city would get. It was suggested that a committee that includes city representation, such as the Pierce County Regional Council, would help decide how to distribute these funds.

Annual Meeting/Trails Conference:

- Date for the annual meeting/trails conference has been set for Nov. 27, at University of Puget Sound.
- John Ladenburg has been confirmed as the keynote speaker.
- Jayme, Kirk, and Barbara will meet after today's meeting to do some more planning.
- Barbara suggested one of the breakout sessions topics be "How to Form a Metro Parks District."
- Kirk will oversee the appointment and succession of new officers at the annual meeting.

Annual Workplan:

- The annual workplan was reviewed and it was agreed that a board retreat should be held early in 2007.

Closing Comments:

- John announced the Cascade Land Conservancy's Pierce County luncheon on Oct. 23 at the Tacoma Convention Center. Patty Murray will be the featured speaker, and anyone interested in attending should contact John.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, November 8, 12-1:30 p.m., at the Tacoma Metro Parks headquarters.