

ForeverGreen Board Meeting
September 14, 2005
Tacoma Nature Center

Attended: Ernie Bay (Foothills Trails Coalition), Bryan Bowden (Mt. Rainier National Park), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Kirk Kirkland (Tahoma Audubon), Terry Lee (Pierce County Council), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Mayor of Sumner), Kathy Smith (Pierce County Parks & Recreation), Lois Stark (METRO Parks Tacoma), Dave Uberuaga (Mt. Rainier National Park), Jack Wilson (METRO Parks Tacoma)

Minutes Taken by: Bryan Bowden

Open and Introduction: 12:10 pm

501 (c) (3) Incorporation:

- Kirk filed the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation last month at the Secretary of States office.
- ForeverGreen is now fully incorporated as a non-profit with the state. 501 (c) (3) tax exempt status with the IRS will follow.
- Jayme stated that once we are formally a 501 (c) (3), a date will need to be set for an annual meeting.
- Barbara said her husband is an accountant and could help Kirk file with the IRS for tax exempt status. Kirk said he would be glad for the help.

Finances:

- ForeverGreen's finances are currently being handled by the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation.
- Jayme reported she did not have a current financial statement, but there were no expenses in June or July except for a \$30 filing fee paid to the State for incorporation.

ForeverGreen Presentations:

- Terry and Kirk presented to the newly formed Peninsula Metro Park District earlier this week. Their number one priority is trails, bike lanes, and sidewalks. The ForeverGreen presentation was very positively received.
- Bryan reported on presentations he has given to the City Councils of Lakewood, Milton, and Edgewood. All were well received. The City of Lakewood is currently working with the Tacoma/Pierce Health Department on a project to plan for a system of local trails, sidewalks, and bike lanes. A councilman from the City of Edgewood asked how ForeverGreen was going to prioritize its services to different jurisdictions.

- Bryan has future presentations scheduled with the City of Buckley on October 11th and the City of Fife on October 25th.
- Barbara Skinner is interested in a presentation to the City of Sumner and will coordinate getting scheduled on one of their future agendas.
- All Board members are encouraged to be self-motivated in terms of getting us scheduled to give presentations to various city councils, service clubs, and other stakeholder groups and organizations. Simply coordinate through Jayme to get them scheduled.

Strategic Planning Committee:

- Jayme provided an overview of the work of the Strategic Planning Committee to date. Committee members are Jayme Gordon, Kirk Kirkland, John Olson, Barbara Skinner, and Bryan Bowden.
- The committee was formed in June to make recommendations for evolving the ForeverGreen Council from a loosely knit coalition to a more professional, deliberate, and accountable organization.
- The committee has met three times and decided to make recommendations defining ForeverGreen's policies, procedures, rules of order, and annual operations (to include development of short and long term goals).
- The first draft documents from the committee were presented for Board review and discussion. These included the following: 1) vision and mission statements; 2) board composition guidelines; 3) committee structure, roles, and responsibilities.
- These draft documents were briefly discussed and Board members were asked to review and comment on them before the next meeting. They will be presented at the next meeting for final approval.
- Dave Uberuaga expressed appreciation to the committee members for taking on this work and presenting draft information in this manner. He said this will help the ForeverGreen Council make the best use of their time together at Board meetings.

Establish Membership Committee:

- Kirk Kirkland commented that one of the committees suggested in the draft 'Committee Structure, Roles, and Responsibilities' document (above) needs to be convened sooner than later because there are two urgent matters requiring attention. These are: 1) current board vacancies; and 2) the need for a new president by January, 2006.
- A temporary 'Membership Committee' was formed to address these issues and make recommendations at the next Board meeting. Committee members are Kirk Kirkland, Terry Lee, Barbara Skinner, and Jack Wilson.

Trails Progress Report:

- Ernie Bay reported on the Foothills Trail. The last section, between 196th St, Alderton, and Military Road, of the first fifteen miles of the Foothills Trail were to have been paved this past week, but have been delayed. The gravel base is in place. Also, approximately 3/4 mile of trail is to be paved by Pierce County adjacent to SR 165 in Wilkeson within the next month.
- Ernie Bay reported on the Puyallup RiverWalk. Work has resumed on the westward phase following several weeks delay allowing for repair of the levy lining. Paving is now expected to take place sometime in October.
- John Olson reported on recent activities of the Cascade Land Conservancy related to land acquisition in support of the Mt. Rainier National Park Boundary expansion in the Carbon River valley. The Cascade Land Conservancy is encouraging Pierce County to consider extending the Foothills Trail from Wilkeson to these properties.

Other Items:

- Jayme suggested this might be a good time for the Board to consider holding its first Annual Meeting. This could be a large gathering to which all stakeholders are invited.
- The Board asked the members of the Strategic Planning Committee to develop a draft proposed outline for an Annual Meeting to present, discuss, and act on at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar! The next ForeverGreen meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2005, at the Tacoma Nature Center, from noon to 1:30 p.m. (bring your own sack lunch).