

ForeverGreen Trails Board Meeting Minutes

June 12, 2013

12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters – 2nd Floor Board Room

4702 South 19th Street, Tacoma

President Barbara Skinner called the meeting to order at 12:03. The minutes were reviewed and approved.

Attending: Barbara Skinner, Jane Moore, Dave Seago, Diane Wiatr, Lyle Quasim, Joseph Coppo, George Walk, Terry Lee, Bryan Bowden, Gary Cooper, Shawn Phelps, Brianna Charbonnel, Kendall Reid

Financial Update – Jane reported that all liabilities are paid up to date. Total funds in both Greater Tacoma Community Foundation and bank accounts is \$14,456. Our current expenses are about \$700 a month. If the trails conference breaks even we have about 20 months of funding left.

Executive Committee Presentation – Barbara indicated that the executive committee had met to consider proposals to address long term viability of FG. She asked Dave Seago to lead a discussion about alternatives. Dave recognized that developing a fund raising plan at the moment is problematic with the long term financial sustainability of FG in question. He reported that organizations that have similar goals and the capacity to fund FG were the topic of discussion in the executive committee meeting. Both the Foothills Trails Coalition and Tacoma Wheelmen have strong balance sheets and similar goals to FG. Neither group has a significant body dedicated to looking broadly at county and region wide trails issues. Could FG serve as an advocacy committee within either organization?

- Bryan responded that FG's original idea was a triangle of citizens, planning and agencies. He sees our current approach as solidly agency and believes being under the wing of a citizen's organization would place unnecessary limits on our work.
- Dave questioned if we should operate as an all volunteer organization or minimize paid staff to maintain viability.
- Terry suggested that we look for a project and then solicit funding to carry forward that project. He mentioned that he will be looking for support for a proposal to build a trail around the perimeter of the Tacoma Narrows Airport.
- Shawn suggested we support the cross county commuter trail that was mentioned at the recent Pipeline Trail opening.
- David Boe pointed out that the Dome to Defiance Trail is advancing and will be supported by fees from projects tied to the port.
- Gary said that support from groups like FG can provide significant help to municipalities applying for grants.
- David Boe recognized that FG's big picture understanding is very valuable. FG's ability to integrate ideas is crucial to making things happen. Lyle added that strategic design and policy creation are unique contributions of FG.
- George pointed out that we need taking points for meeting with politicians. Terry, Diane and Bryan batted around some elevator speech language:
 - We work collaboratively to get trails built. We make trails happen.

News, Updates, and Announcements Washington State Trails Caucus – September 13 – Wenatchee 2014 Trails Conference is in Bellingham. Our 2013 trail conference is Oct.30.

Shawn has distributed about 30,000 copies of the new Pierce County bike map.

Diane is appreciative of those who showed up for the Pipeline Trail dedication. The Museum of Glass to Point Defiance ride is Sept.22 from 8:00-1:00.