

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting**  
**January 11, 2006**  
**Tacoma Nature Center**

**Attended:** Ernie Bay (Foothills Trails Coalition), Bryan Bowden (Mt. Rainier National Park), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Terry Lee (Pierce County Council), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Dave Uberuaga (Mt. Rainier National Park), Jack Wilson (Tacoma Metro Parks)

**Minutes Taken by:** Jayme Gordon

**Open and Introduction:** 12:10 p.m.

**Finances:**

- Copies of the balance sheet from our account at the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation were passed around. It showed our account activity through the end of November. Recent expenditures made in December that were not shown on this statement include a \$5,000 contribution from Tacoma Metro Parks and expenses related to the annual meeting that total approximately \$1,000
- Jayme relayed the Conservation District's request for partial to full reimbursement for her time spent with ForeverGreen in 2005, now that the Council has funds to provide it. She spends approximately 25 hours per month (on average) working with ForeverGreen, which amounts to \$750 month/\$9,000 a year. No action was taken.
- Discussion took place regarding the funding future of the Pierce Conservation District, whose assessment money currently provides for the Executive Director position (Jayme). The District will be asking the county council to renew their \$5/per parcel assessment before the end of this year. Terry discussed some of the current attitudes among council members regarding the assessment renewal. Another challenge will be to gain authority from the state legislature to request an assessment amount of more than \$5 (up to \$10). This is something that Monty will be working on during the current legislative session.
- Jayme presented a "Master Business Application" form from the Dept. of Licensing that ForeverGreen is required to complete as part of their non-profit status. She requested help filling it out, as she is unsure of how to answer some of the questions.

**Annual Meeting:**

- ForeverGreen's first annual meeting was held on December 7, 6-8 p.m. at the Allmendinger Center. Sixty-six people officially signed-in, but there were definitely more than that in attendance.

- Suggestions for how to improve for the next time included greater advertisement to the general public, local access broadcast of meeting by Rainier Communications, and more coverage by local media.
- Overall consensus was that the meeting was very successful. A lot of good feedback was received by attendees. Another observation about the meeting was that it confirmed the growing momentum in Pierce County for not just trails, but a regional trail system. There was a lot of good energy in the crowd that night and the challenge for ForeverGreen is figuring out *how* to capture that energy. One way to harness this energy and keep the momentum is to ramp up the Public Relations Committee. Among other things, Terry said he could write an op-ed piece for the News Tribune.

### **Trails Advisory Committee:**

- A role and function statement for the TAC drafted by Bryan was handed out and discussed (see attached). With no changes, Dave motioned to approve the TAC role and function statement. The motion was seconded by Jack and unanimously approved.
- Discussion then turned to who would be on the TAC. To start, many people who attended the Annual Meeting have contacted Jayme about participating in the Trails Advisory Committee. In addition, Ernie suggested that at least one representative from each community be on the TAC. This would result in a large number of people, so Bryan suggested that a representative of large, medium, and small jurisdictions be on the committee. This should be done in such a way as to try to cover all the geographic areas of the county. Terry suggested inviting members of the PC Land Use Advisory Committees to sit on the TAC. Dave suggested that we resend an email to people from the annual meeting and attach the TAC guidelines.
- In conclusion, it was decided that the Strategic Planning Committee would take specific suggestions of TAC nominees from board members, and together with the annual meeting attendees who have expressed interest, draft an invitation list.

### **Strategic Planning Committee:**

- Copies of the Short Term and Long Term Goals drafted by the Strategic Planning Committee were passed out for review. Discussion was limited and action was delayed until the board retreat.
- Bryan walked everyone through a draft of the Annual Operating Cycle (see attached). Dave motioned to accept the AOC as presented. Terry seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

### **Board Retreat:**

- The need for a full board retreat has been raised in the Strategic Planning Committee. The SPC has been doing a lot of work to develop guidelines, goals, and planning calendars, but the time has come for the board to weigh-in in full on some of these matters and help plan action items for this year.
- It was proposed to hold a board retreat on the same day as our regularly scheduled February board meeting (Feb. 8), but to extend the meeting time (12-5 p.m.).
- The Doc Weathers/Narrows Park property was the first choice for board retreat location. Jayme will contact Kathy Kravit-Smith to inquire about its availability that day. Jack offered his nearby home for a post-retreat gathering.
- According to the annual operating cycle that was adopted minutes earlier, the annual board retreat is normally scheduled for November. Terry said that his county council commitments make that time of year very difficult for him to commit to a board retreat. The decision to hold a mini board retreat in early 2006 is not intended to be a regular event.

#### **Membership Committee:**

- Jayme announced that at the annual meeting, Kirk was elected to President, Barbara is now Vice-President, and Ernie is the Secretary-Treasurer. The board thanked Terry for his service as President.
- There are still vacancies on the board that need to be filled.

#### **ForeverGreen Presentations:**

- Jayme and Bryan met with Dan Scamporlina on January 5 regarding the city of Auburn's desire to help trails in King Co. meet up with the trails in Pierce Co.
- Bryan is scheduled to give the ForeverGreen presentation to the Auburn city council on Jan. 31; Terry and Kirk are scheduled to present to the Key Peninsula Metro Parks Commission on Feb. 13.
- ForeverGreen has been invited to attend the Fennel Creek trail committee meeting on Jan. 26.
- Ernie agreed to schedule a ForeverGreen presentation with the Puyallup city council.

#### **Trails Progress Report:**

- One of the next stages of the Rails-to-Trails trail will be to complete the section of the riverwalk from the 512 bridge to Sumner. Also, three bridges are scheduled to be built this summer: one over Lower Burnett plus two others.
- In the Carbon River Canyon, deals have recently closed on two property purchases, and a third is getting close. Three Forest Legacy (CLC) properties that link the Carbon River Canyon are being lined up for acquisition. The Cascade

Land Conservancy is also at work on the White River PSE land acquisition between Buckley and Auburn that consists of a 10-mile, 3,000-acre stretch.

**Other Items:**

- Due to scheduling conflicts with the Snake Lake facility, ForeverGreen has to find a new meeting location for most of this year. Lois at Metro Parks has already stepped up and reserved the conference room at Park HQ for ForeverGreen on the second Wednesday of each month from now through at least July. A reminder of the change in meeting location and directions will be sent prior to our next meeting.
- An exception to the information above is for the February 8 meeting, which will actually be a board retreat. The final location for that will be sent out prior to the 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.**

**The February 8 board meeting will be replaced by a ½ day board retreat, 12-5 p.m. Exact location and more information to come!**