

ForeverGreen Board Retreat
March 11, 2009
Snake Lake Nature Center, Tacoma
12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Attended: Bryan Bowden, Brianna Charbonnel, Skip Ferrucci, Jayme Gordon Pleasants, Kirk Kirkland, Jane Moore, and John Olson.

Minutes Taken by: Jayme Gordon Pleasants. President Jane Moore opened the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

Approval of Minutes:

- *Kirk moved to approve the February board meeting minutes as presented. Skip seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.*

Finances:

- Jayme handed out copies of the 2009 Operating Budget and the current Profit and Loss Statement. Left off of these documents were the cash reserves at the beginning of the year (\$8,118.88) and the ending balance as of 3/11/09 (\$6,528.66). Jayme will add these amounts to the approved budget. *Kirk motioned to accept the 2009 budget with the changes as discussed. Skip seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.* The Operating Budget and current Profit and Loss Statement will be distributed with the minutes.
- In other funding news, the invoice(s) to Pierce County Parks are being processed, and Kirk will continue to follow up with Metro Parks regarding their funding.
- The application for the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation's grant has been accepted and an interview is scheduled for May to determine approval.

Sales Tax Legislation:

- The going is rough for ForeverGreen's sales tax legislation. The House leadership is opposed to local taxing options, and the bill died in the House committee. In the Senate, the ForeverGreen bill has been amended and joined with another bill that is similar and still alive. We will have to wait and see what happens next.
- The questions was raised whether ForverGreen should continue forward with the chance that the bill will pass in this year's session or stop now and get a partial refund from the lobbyist? Kirk gave several reasons to keep going through the session on the chance that something could still happen or at the very least more groundwork could be laid for future attempts. Discussion followed. A consensus was reached to stay the course through the end of this year's legislative session.

Old Business:

- Pierce County Trails Conference – Jayme is trying to reserve the Puyallup Methodist Church for November 18 or 19 for the location of this year's conference. Brianna has talked to Franciscan Health Systems and some sponsorship from them is possible. Jane said that she and Tim are still planning to reach out to their contacts re: conference sponsorship.
- Puyallup-Tacoma Trail Study – The Tribe is interested in establishing a trail that goes through the First Creek corridor and connects the Chief Leschi School to First

Creek. Kirk, Bryan, and Parametrix are trying to schedule a meeting with tribal staff to discuss this more. The goal is to have the Tribe's approval/consent to take this plan around to others for support and to be able to complete the study ForeverGreen has commissioned with Parametrix.

- Long-Range Plan for Open Space – The group working on this has been encouraged to apply for a National Parks Rivers and Trails grant. If approved, help would be provided to facilitate the Pierce County open space planning effort. Applications are due August 1.
- Environmental Meetings with P.C. Executive – John attended the February 11 meeting, which he said went well. The meeting was basically a “meet-and-greet” opportunity to inform the Executive McCarthy as to what each group was doing. Kirk added that ForeverGreen has been delegated to one of the Executive's staff and Kirk, Jane, and David Seago have a meeting with this person next week.

New Business:

- Spring Newsletter – Kirk handed out copies of a draft of the spring newsletter. He will be posting a final version to the website shortly, so send him any edits or suggestions.
- Trails Advisory Committee – Jayme will be meeting with Tim to discuss the spring meeting. Suggested agenda topics included an update on the sales tax legislation and a conversation with TAC members to clarify the role of the TAC and ForeverGreen as well as attempt to improve communication between the two.
- Foothills Coalition Meeting – A meeting between the Foothills Coalition and ForeverGreen is scheduled for March 26. The purpose for the meeting is to clarify the role and purpose of ForeverGreen and improve communication between the two groups. John suggested presenting projects/results that ForeverGreen has helped accomplish (e.g. the Puyallup-Tacoma trail study). Another suggestion was to put together an information packet about ForeverGreen to share with Foothill members. We also need to clarify the ways that ForeverGreen is different from (and therefore non-competitive with) the Foothills Coalition (e.g. long-range planning, facilitation, making connections).

Information Sharing:

- John – The Cascade Land Conservancy is busy in Olympia during the legislative session, particularly to push for the regional TDR proposal. CLC is also moving forward on the Carbon River plan with Pierce Co. Parks.
- Brianna – REI is doing alright, and even though some financial assistance may be cut back, they are continuing to provide their partnerships and communities with support.
- Skip – There will be no Conservation Futures process this year.

Meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, 12-1:30 p.m. at the Tacoma Metro Parks headquarters.