

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting
November 9, 2005
Tacoma Nature Center**

Attended: Bryan Bowden (Mt. Rainier National Park), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Grant Griffin (Pierce County Parks and Recreation), Kirk Kirkland (Tahoma Audubon), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Mayor of Sumner)

Minutes Taken by: Jayme Gordon

Open and Introduction: 12:15 p.m. Grant Griffin was introduced as the new Trails Coordinator for Pierce County Parks and Recreation.

Finances:

- Copies of the balance sheet from our account at the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation were passed around. A grant received from the GTCF in the amount of \$2,500 has been deposited. Recent expenditures include a maintenance fee for the GTCF to manage our account (\$154) and room rental of the Allmendinger Center for the annual meeting (\$115).
- Jayme brought to the board's attention the possible need for ForeverGreen to begin helping to cover the costs of her salary, which up until now has been provided by the Pierce Conservation District. She spends approximately 25 hours per month (on average) working with ForeverGreen, which amounts to \$750 month/\$9,000 a year. Kirk recommended that the board consider covering half to all of Jayme's salary.

ForeverGreen Presentations:

- Recent presentations have been given to Fife, Bonney Lake, and the Pierce County Parks Advisory Board.
- Presentations were scheduled to be given to the Tacoma Wheelmen (11/15) and the Sumner City Council (11/21).
- Next on the agenda to set up ForeverGreen presentations are: PALS, University Place, and Gig Harbor (Kirk will set up); Key Peninsula Parks District (Jayme will set up); Pacific and Sumner Rotary (Barbara will set up); Puyallup (Ernie will set up); and Tacoma (ask Lois to help arrange this).

Strategic Planning Committee:

- Jayme passed around copies of the *Committee Roles and Responsibilities* document that included suggestions and changes made at the last board meeting. After review, Barbara motioned to accept the document, Kirk seconded the

motion, and it was approved unanimously. A copy of the approved document is attached to the minutes.

Membership Committee:

- Members of the membership committee are still following up on their lists of potential new board members to fill the current vacancies. The goal is to have everyone confirmed (new officers and new board members) by the annual meeting.
- Election of the new board members will be done at the annual meeting. New board members will be welcomed at the annual meeting.

Annual Meeting:

- ForeverGreen's first annual meeting is scheduled for December 7, 6-8 p.m. at the Allmendinger Center in Puyallup (WSU Extension Center, 7612 Pioneer Way, Puyallup). All board members are expected to attend.
- Details and planning of the annual meeting were discussed, with suggestions made for the invitation list and the announcement flyer.
- The annual meeting planning committee was to meet on November 21 to work on the details of the agenda and other logistics. A summary of the evening's program and other important information is attached to the minutes, as is a copy of the invitation flyer. Board members can help distribute the invitation by forwarding it along via e-mail. Also, if you have not done so yet, please r.s.v.p with Jayme to confirm your attendance. (Space is limited so we need to keep track of attendance numbers.)

Trails Progress Report:

- Eighteen miles have now been completed on the Foothills Rails to Trail. When the next sections under construction are done, the trail will be 23.5 miles long!
- Fleet Feet Sports in Bonney Lake has stepped forward to coordinate the "Rainier to Ruston" relay next June. It has also designated this relay as a qualifying race for runs such as the Boston Marathon.
- In the Carbon River Canyon, purchase agreements for the Marsh and Crandall properties is in the closing stages and should be finalized shortly. The Cascade Land Conservancy has also convened a committee to participate in the Carbon River Valley Conservation Project.
- Pierce County Parks and the City of Yakima are working together on a grant to extend the William O. Douglas trail from the east side of Mt. Rainier to the Elbe/Ashford area.
- The City of Tacoma (Tacoma Rail) has received a federal appropriation of approximately \$700,000 to conduct a feasibility study on the proposed "Train to the Mountain" project that would re-establish passenger rail excursion service from Tacoma (Freighthouse Square) to the Elbe/Ashford area outside the Nisqually entrance of Mount Rainier National Park. In the process of negotiating

the details of the study, the National Park Service requested Tacoma Rail to study the potential for compatible alternative use of the railroad right-of-way corridor such as a pedestrian rail-with-trail. The City of Tacoma agreed to include this in the study. The details of how the trail study will be conducted are yet to be worked out but it is possible that Pierce County Parks and Rec. may be contracted for this part.

Other Items:

- In regards to a side discussion about the need for people with specialized skills to be hired as part of the Trails Office, Grant Griffin commented on what a right of way agent does. He pointed out that these are specialists who are expensive to bring on, and if one is to be hired, it needs to be budgeted appropriately.
- The need for the ForeverGreen board to meet with the Pierce Conservation District board was brought up. John, Kirk, and Barbara will attend the December 6th PCD board meeting to show the ForeverGreen powerpoint presentation and discuss some of the details of how ForeverGreen and the PCD will work together to manage the Trails Office.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

The ForeverGreen Annual Meeting will be held in lieu of a December board meeting. Don't forget to r.s.v.p. with Jayme!