

ForeverGreen Trails Board Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2013

Metro Parks Tacoma Headquarters – 2nd Floor Board Room
4702 South 19th Street, Tacoma

Meeting called to order by President Barbara Skinner at 12:07.

In attendance: Jane Moore, Barbara Skinner, Dave Seago, George Walk, Terry Lee, Jack Wilson, Dianne Wiatr, Shawn Phelps, Bryan Bowden, Kendall Reid

Approval of minutes was moved by Dave and seconded by Shawn, motion passed.

Point Defiance – Ruston Way Missing Link Project Update was presented by Jack Wilson, MetroParks Tacoma.

The 100th anniversary of Point Defiance Park was the catalyst for a new planning initiative that would increase recreational, environmental, educational and environmental opportunities.

Greater emphasis will be placed on pedestrian and non-motorized access by creating a link between the park and the City of Tacoma's Water Walk. This access would include walkways around the marina and would create a 7 mile long trail joining Ruston Way with the park. The trail would bridge SR163 as it enters the park. A new aquarium for the zoo would be part of the package, recognizing the zoo attraction complex's ability to draw 1.3 million visitors a year, currently.

New classroom facilities will be built to house Tacoma Public School's Science and Math Institute (SAMI). This would allow for continual growth in SAMI's participation in hands-on scientific study of the park's environment.

Long term planning would include the economic development of current parking and storage areas above the marina near the Missing Link, bridge into a conference center and retail that would generate revenues to support park activities.

Financial Update As of the first quarter we have \$14,012 with the Tacoma Community Foundation and \$6054 with U.S. Bank. Outstanding obligations are approximately \$7,000.

Executive Director Activities – Jane and Barbara attended a Valley Cities mayors meeting. Mayors were interested in trail planning within the county.

Old Business - Barbara is interested in convening a dinner meeting of like minded organizations to plan to work together.

Terry Lee is interested in determining what support the county needs in 2014 for the Puget Sound Regional Trail Plan.

Conference Planning – Who might co-hosts? Wheelmen? Foothills Coalition might be willing to donate \$2500 from fund provided to them by Bob Myrick. Would Pierce County be willing to provide in kind sponsorship? The date Wednesday October 30 is available at the Environmental Services Center.

New Members- Kendall moved that Diane Wiatr, George Walk and Gary Cooper be accepted as new members. Dave seconded the motion and the motion carried.

New Business –Diane reported that the city will close the road from south of the Museum of Glass through Ruston Way on Saturday September 29 for a Sunday Parkway bicycling event. There will be booths at parks along the way.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:29.