

ForeverGreen Council Board Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2012  
MetroParks Tacoma Headquarters

Attending: David Boe, Brianna Charbonnel, Jane Moore, Bob Myrick, Tim Payne, Shawn Phelps, Tony Tipton, Mark Williams (on behalf of Rick Talbert)

Meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Treasurer Tim Payne.

May minutes were approved as written. (motion Charbonnel, second Myrick)

The financial report including Greater Tacoma Community Foundation fees for first quarter 2012 was presented. This does not include any donations made on-line through the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. Current balance is \$15,096.07.

Executive Director's report will be covered with work plan updates.

Director of Government Relations: In Kirk's absence, Jane reported that the

1. Bicycle Alliance of Washington's Legislative and Statewide Issues Committee meeting to develop legislative strategy for the next session was scheduled for Saturday but has been postponed.
2. Pierce Transit Board has approved a ballot issue for November; this proposes a 0.3% sales tax increase to fund transit. Pierce County and the City of Tacoma are supportive.
3. Bob noted a continuing need to urge the Pierce County flood control to include trails and trails access in its plan.

#### Work Plan Updates

1. Pierce County Trails Conference: Jane will complete the registration form for the Pierce County Environmental Services Building and send it to Tony; he will schedule a meeting with the events coordinator to work out details. Last year's finances were reviewed. The board agreed that a registration fee of \$15 was appropriate this year. We could offer student registrations for \$10. We should start seeking sponsors; if donations are received in time, logos could be included on the invitation as well as the program. Steve Schweigerdt from the San Francisco office of the national Rails to Trails Conservancy is available to speak; he has been doing work on urban pathways and non-traditional partners. We would need to cover travel expenses.
2. Pierce County Parks Leadership Task Force: met last night; are working to develop scope of work packages for a proposed metropolitan park district for unincorporated Pierce County. They will be conducting public outreach and accepting input from August through October. Then a plan will be refined and presented to the county council in late winter or early spring 2013. Creation of a park district funded through property tax revenue could be on the ballot in fall 2013 or later.

3. Trail Priorities: Tony will be meeting next week with WSDOT and King County regarding using a historic Puyallup bridge as a trail bridge across the White River – refurbishment of the bridge could be expensive. The planned new PSE power line will cross the Foothills Trail several times with a negative impact to the view; PSE might be convinced to complete trail linking the Foothills Trail and the Riverwalk Trail as mitigation. The county has submitted a construction grant application to RCO for trail extending southwest from Buckley towards Hwy 165; design is underway; construction could start in late 2013. Mr. Partin has until August to respond to the county's last offer for his property in South Prairie; condemnation process will begin if he does not accept the offer. There are several other pieces of property needed to complete the trail.
4. Pierce County Executive's Environmental Advisory Council: Jane attended the June meeting. There were presentations on the Open Space Plan, TDR/PDR program, and Waughop Lake. July meeting will be a tour of Fennel Creek Trail.
5. County trails map: Shawn notes a draft may be available next month.
6. PSRC regional network: Shawn is trying to ensure that all comments from Pierce County meetings are reflected on the network maps. Inclusion is likely to affect future funding.
7. Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition: the Rainier to Ruston event last weekend was very successful with a large increase in participants. The Foothills Trail was designated a National Recreational Trail; this may result in benefits from the National Parks Service.
8. The Pierce County Bike Month events were also quite successful with many participants.

Other business:

1. City of Tacoma may also have a fall ballot issue – a property tax increase to fund road improvements including pothole repairs, bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
2. Work on Tacoma's bike boulevards will be starting soon; primarily pothole repair, painting bike lanes and crosswalks. Water Ditch Trail work is also underway.
3. Eatonville will be using volunteers to create a gravel trail for the Bud Blanchard trail this summer and hope to pave it next year.
4. David Boe noted opposition of TCC to planned improvements to Mildred Street including bike lanes and bus pull-outs. University Place and Fircrest have funds to continue bike lanes to the south. It was suggested that environmental clubs and professors might be contacted and encouraged to support the plans.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 pm.