

# ForeverGreen Council Board Annual Retreat

February 12, 2014

*Metro Parks Snake Lake Meeting Room*

*South 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Tacoma*

The meeting was called to order at 12:22 by Brian Bowden

In attendance: Ernie Bay, Bryan Bowden, Jane Moore, Brianna Charbonnel, Bob Myrick, Shawn Phelps, Lyle Quasim, Barbara Skinner, George Walk, Tony Tipton, Diane Wiatr, Gary Cooper, David Boe, Kirk Kirkland, Kendall Reid

**Review and Approval of Minutes** Tony moved minutes be approved, Gary seconded. Motion approved.

**Financial Report** Beginning balance \$20,711. \$900 is reserved for payment to Parametrix. Services to the Puyallup Watershed Initiative has brought in \$5000, but expenses related to participation in the initiative have not yet been resolved.

QuickBooks for Non-profits, which costs \$280, would streamline accounting processing. Barbara moved that we buy it, Shawn seconded. The motion was approved.

The list of check signers for the bank account needs to be updated. Bryan Bowden will be added, Barbara Skinner and Terry Lee removed. Moved, seconded and approved. Jane requested that reporting to the IRS be switched from quarterly to monthly to anticipate future need. Moved, seconded and approved.

**Old Business** Bryan reviewed the history of Forever Green's involvement in the Russell Family Foundation's Puyallup Watershed Initiative. What began as a group interested in trails eventually became the Active Transportation Community of Interest. FG has participated in a number of meetings; two meetings remain to discuss values, problems, strategies and actions. There seem to be opportunities for FG to be involved in ongoing efforts to work with agency leaders and elected officials, as well as working on general marketing and education efforts.

Diane recognized that what the Active Transportation COI will chose to do and how monies will be allocated will be much clearer after the next two meetings. It is likely that the amount of money allocated will be approximately \$70,000. Brianna commented on the Russell Family Foundation's strong motivation to see the work of the COIs succeed and their willingness to support the evolution of workable ideas.

The goal of the Active Transportation COI is to strongly support the completion of a group of interconnected trails, including the use of bike lanes and sidewalks, in order to encourage an increase in number of, interest in, and access to hiking, walking, and biking.

After a detailed, open-ended discussion of FG's participation in the COI, Bryan lead a discussion about working along with the other COIs, including Agriculture and Forestry to achieve common goals. A consensus evolved that it would be best to hold off on committing to other COIs until the Active Transportation COI has a clear, unified vision.

**New Business** There was an in depth discussion of short and long term goals with modifications, changes and updates by the group.

Jane mentioned that the Puyallup-White Watershed group is interested in input on several concepts having to do with the connection of regional trails.

Sponsorship of Transportation Advocacy Day at approximately \$100 and of the Bike Month/Bike Swap, Saturday May 3 at \$30 were approved. FG will have a booth at the Bike Swap.

Diane reported that Bike Month planning is in full swing. In addition to the Bike Swap, there will be a Blessing of the Bikes on May 2 and a number of other activities.

The trails conference planning committee will be Brianna, Barbara, Ernie, Bryan and Jane. The conference is planned for Wednesday Oct. 29 at the Pagoda at Point Defiance.

Jane and Diane plan to submit a presentation proposal on the Puyallup Watershed Initiative to the State Trails conference.

**Announcements** Both the bond campaign for Metro Parks and the update of the Pierce County trail plan are significant upcoming events.

A mitigation related to lack of space for a bike lane on the new bridge on SR 167 will provide for an extension to the Interurban Trail.

Approved 03/12/2014

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Bryan Bowden, President

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Kendall Reid, Secretary