

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting**  
**April 11, 2007**  
**Tacoma Metro Parks, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.**

**In Attendance:** Ernie Bay, Markus Dennis, Bryan Bowden, Jayme Gordon, Kirk Kirkland, Terry Lee, Monty Mahan, Jane Moore, John Olson, and Barbara Skinner.

**Minutes Taken by:** Jayme Gordon

**Open and Introduction:** The meeting began with round table introductions and sharing of information.

- Kirk: Kirk reported on a meeting he had recently with Joe Scorcio regarding trail connections with the Chamber Creek properties, University Place, Lakewood, and Steilacoom.
- Bryan: Made a note that the Chambers Creek trail(s) should be shown on the updated countywide trail map.
- Jane: Announced two conferences sponsored by the WA Coalition for Promoting Physical Activity: “Beyond Obesity” (May 1), and the “Active Living Leadership Forum” (May 2). Both will be held at the Centre at Norpoint. Jane also passed out copies of WADOT’s funding list for transportation projects in Pierce County. There were no non-motorized transportation projects on the list, and she asked that board members provide suggestions on some. Bryan thought maybe the budget and finance committee could review the list and provide input.
- Terry: Together with Shawn Bunney, Terry included \$50,000 in the supplemental budget to hire Strategies 360 to lobby for trail funding in Washington D.C. Terry continues to meet with Tacoma Power regarding approx. 40 acres at the Narrows end of the Cushman Trail that will allow access to the water and include additional parking. He is also talking with Tacoma Power about extending the Cushman Trail by about 3.5 miles. Phase 4 of the Cushman Trail is now in the planning and design stage.
- Markus: Markus was introduced as the newly elected Trails Advisory Committee chair, and is therefore also a ForeverGreen board member for the duration of his term. Markus is also current president of the Foothills Rails-to-Trails Coalition and a member of the Puyallup Park Board. He announced that he is directing the May 5 grand opening of the Soundview/Chambers Bay golf course trail.
- Ernie: Asked a question raised by Bob Myrick about who is responsible for Fife’s section of the Interurban Trail? Answer: Fife is planning to connect the Interurban Trail spur from Milton to Tacoma through their city. Ernie also said that the newest phase of Puyallup’s Riverwalk Trail is finished, except for one piece near the Puyallup Executive Park (i.e. the blue “flashcube” buildings on East Main). Sumner is working on access from Mama Stortini’s over the Puyallup River bridge. The westernmost section of the Puyallup Riverwalk Trail is closed due to flood damage.
- Barbara: Barbara passed around a copy of the Eatonville Regional Trail Study and announced that she and Jayme were meeting with Strategies 360 right after the board meeting.
- John: Announced that the Cascade Land Conservancy’s annual awards breakfast banquet is on May 15 at the Washington Trade and Convention Center. CLC is

working with Pierce Co. Parks to establish a stewardship plan for the Carbon River Canyon properties. There is \$1.2 million available in conservation futures funds; the application process starts April 17. There is now empirical evidence that shows that trails and open space are the #1 off-site amenity to home buyers, and provide an 15% market advantage, on average.

### **Approval of Minutes**

- There were no changes to the March board meeting minutes. Kirk motioned to approve the minutes as presented, and Terry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Finances:**

- Kirk has been working on the sales tax proposal which has received favorable support in Olympia. Representatives Pat Lantz, Dennis Flannigan, and Steve Kirby, and Senator Debbie Regala have signed on as sponsors of the bill. It will be submitted to the House, but not yet to the Senate.
- Grant is making good suggestions and doing good work on the business plan. The budget and finance committee continues to meet and the plan is moving forward.
- Monty reported that the Pierce Conservation District's effort to receive approval from the state legislature to seek an increased assessment was killed by the Washington Association of Conservation Districts, even though it had Sen. Rasmussen's support.
- Barbara, Ernie, Kirk and Jayme will meet with the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation on April 13 regarding the grant proposal. The Sequoia Foundation grant is still being worked on.
- Funds have been received from Sumner and Tacoma Metro Parks.

### **Trails Advisory Committee Meeting:**

- As the newly elected chair of the TAC, Markus said his plan for the next year is to "convene, produce, and forecast."
- Among other things, revising and updating the countywide trail map will be one of the priorities. John said he could put Markus in touch with CLC's GIS department to possibly help with the map.

### **Logo:**

- This discussion was tabled due to a lack of time to adequately address it. It was suggested the initial logo discussion be done by the budget and finance committee.

### **Events:**

- There are three upcoming events that ForeverGreen will be participating in: grand opening of the Chambers Bay golf course trail (May 5); grand opening of the Scott Pierson Trail (May 12); and National Trails Day/Rainier to Ruston relay race (June 2).
- Terry is tentatively scheduled to speak at the May 5 event. ForeverGreen will also have an informational booth at the event, and board members are needed to help staff it.
- Barbara has been asked to speak at the May 12 event. ForeverGreen will also have an information booth and board members are needed to help staff it.

**Presentations:**

- Kirk recently met with the Lakewood park board, which is working on a trail plan for the city.
- Barbara and Bryan still need to meet with Eatonville.
- Kirk and Terry still need to meet with Gig Harbor.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

**The next board meeting will be Wednesday, May 9, 12-1:30 p.m. at the Tacoma Metro Parks headquarters.**