

**ForeverGreen Meeting**  
**May 13<sup>th</sup> 2005**  
**Tacoma Nature Center**

**In Attendance:** Ernie Bay (Foothills Trails Coalition), Bryan Bowden (National Park Service, Rivers and Trails program), Jayme Gordon (Pierce Conservation District), Kirk Kirkland (Tahoma Audubon), Jackie Larue (Intake training with Dave Uberuaga), Terry Lee (Pierce County Council), Michael Linde ( National Park Service, Rivers and Trails program) Monty Mahan ( Pierce Conservation District), John Olson (Cascade Land Conservancy), Barbara Skinner (Mayor of Sumner), Peter Stanley (Pierce County Farm Advisory), Dave Uberuaga (Superintendent, Mount Rainier National Park), Jan Wolcott (Pierce County Parks).

**Minutes Taken by:** Cyndy Schultz

**Open and Introduction:** 12:15pm

**501 (c) (3) Incorporation:**

- Draft of the bylaws was sent via e-mail with the April board meeting minutes so that board members could have a chance to review them. Kirk had received some responses, and all had the general consensus that the bylaws were fine as written.
- Dave suggested a change be made to Article One regarding board member term limits. Instead of having three consecutive two year terms, the limit would be raised to four. This means the maximum time a board member could serve on ForeverGreen would be eight consecutive years.
- Kirk made a motion to adopt the bylaws with the term change.
- Terry seconded the motion.
- Motion was passed unanimously by all board members present.

**Finances:**

- The Greater Tacoma Community Foundation is continuing to provide financial oversight for now, with a 2% administration fee.
- \$5,000.00 has been received from Pierce County Parks and Recreation.
- \$2,500.00 has been requested from Sumner per Barbara's earlier suggestion.
- Rails and Trails will be billed for the additional 500 brochures they requested. Total cost on brochures came to \$868.00.
- Monty described the current status of the Pierce County District's \$5 parcel assessment fund and how it was not affected by recent activity in the state legislature. In summary, only King Conservation District was granted the opportunity to raise its assessment request from \$5 to \$10. The Pierce Conservation District hopes next year's legislative session will provide all of Washington State's conservation districts the authority to request up to \$10.

- Monty also explained that the District is halfway through its current assessment and will be approaching the county for re-approval next year.
- If re-approved at the current rate (\$5/parcel), most of those funds are already spoken for. If the district is able to request a \$10/parcel assessment, and it is approved, approximately 1/3 of those funds would be used for the Trails office.
- In response to whether a \$10/parcel assessment request would be approved, Terry said members of the County Council are holding conservation and discussions on this matter.
- John Olson mentioned that in general, there is concern in some jurisdictions about funds raised in their district being used to pay for proposals in other areas.

### **Outreach Materials:**

- Jayme handed out the final brochure. One thousand copies were ordered. She asked for anyone to let her know suggestions for where the brochures could best be distributed.
- Bryan reminded everyone about the PowerPoint presentation and encouraged board members to consider being ambassadors to promote the trails by presenting the PowerPoint.
- It was suggested that it would be a good idea to tailor the PowerPoint in advance to accommodate each type of group.
- Kirk commented that the presentation can be easily modified for the different audiences.
- Discussion followed about the availability of presentation equipment, presenters' familiarity with the presentation equipment (or lack thereof), and possibly having the presentation in alternative formats.
- A list will be developed of all groups we want to take the PowerPoint to, and asked board members to sign up to give some of the presentations. Jayme, Bryan, and Kirk are available to help with the equipment and share presentation duties. A team concept for giving the presentation can be developed for board members who may feel intimidated about giving the presentation. Those with more experience are willing to help as needed.
- Also, handouts of the PowerPoint slides with space for notes should be made available to the audience when giving the presentation.
- Barbara, Bryan, and Jayme will meet to develop a list of groups to present to, and address the issues of equipment availability and how to use.

### **Pierce County Trails Resolution:**

- Kirk and Jayme gave the ForeverGreen presentation to the Pierce County Council on May 10<sup>th</sup>, after which the council unanimously passed the ForeverGreen trails resolution.
- The presentation was then cablecast for the rest of the week as part of the County Council meeting broadcast.

- Terry will be meeting with University Place on May 16<sup>th</sup>, and will present on ForeverGreen at that time.
- Bryan reported on his presentation to the Rails to Trails Coalition on April 28<sup>th</sup>, which he said was generally well received, although there was some healthy skepticism about ForeverGreen's proposal.
- Efforts are still being made to arrange the bike-rail "race" between Tacoma and Elbe. Bryan will try to make arrangements with Tacoma Rail and Kirk will coordinate the bicyclists.

**Press Strategy and Media Blitz:**

- Press releases are being sent to all major newspapers in Pierce County, including The News Tribune, Puyallup Herald, Eatonville Dispatch, Orting Gazette, and the Peninsula Gateway.
- Terry, Kirk, Bryan, and Jayme met with two of the Tacoma News Tribune editors on May 11<sup>th</sup> to present the ForeverGreen proposal.

**Other Items:**

- The Meeker to McMillian portion of the Rails to Trails is still underway. Work will pick up in earnest after June 15<sup>th</sup>, which is when four culverts will be replaced. Other areas under construction include the eastward section to the Sumner bridge and the Puyallup section towards Tacoma.
- In Sumner, one mile of trail by the wastewater treatment plant is scheduled to be done this summer.
- The Cascade Land Conservancy has an option on the Marsh property near the Carbon River Canyon and there is funding for the Carbon River Canyon trail.
- A schedule of future meetings during the summer months was discussed. Regular ForeverGreen board meetings will be held on June 8<sup>th</sup> and July 13<sup>th</sup>. We will take a break in August, and resume again on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.**

**The next ForeverGreen meeting is scheduled for June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005, at Snake Lake Nature Center.**