

**ForeverGreen Board Meeting**  
**June 11, 2008**  
**Tacoma Metro Parks, 12:00 to 1:30 p.m.**

**Attendance:** Ernie Bay, Jayme Gordon, Jane Moore, John Olson, and Tim Payne.

**Minutes Taken by:** Jayme Gordon. President Ernie Bay opened the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

- *Jane moved to approve the May board meeting minutes as written. Ernie seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.*

**Finances:**

- Jayme reported that she has finally received a contract for the \$5,000 in funding from the county council. Unlike last year, this year's contract has been routed through P.C. Parks. She will be working with Jeanette Peters at Parks on billing and reporting requirements. Three copies of the contract were signed by Ernie for finalization.
- Jayme will follow up with Barbara about a ForeverGreen presentation to the Association of Pierce County Towns and Cities to bring them up to speed on the sales tax proposal. We need to find out when the Association is meeting and get on their agenda.
- The ask to cities for annual ForeverGreen funding is expected to happen later this summer. Barbara and Kirk have agreed to work on this again.

**Old Business:**

- *Trails Assistance updates* – Jayme presented a copy of the contract from Parametrix for the trail route planning project in Fife. Upon review, several problems were found with the contract. In particular, Tim pointed out that the lump sum payment option was not checked as had been discussed, and the scope of work did not specify what the deliverables would be. Jayme agreed to send the contract back to Parametrix to correct these issues, and once that was done, she would arrange with Ernie a time to sign them so the work can commence.
- *New Brochure* – Jayme brought copies of the new, updated ForeverGreen brochure. They look good, but were not folded at the time of printing. Three thousand of them were printed, and can be obtained from Jayme – you'll just have to do the tri-fold yourself before distributing them. Jayme also had new copies of the Pierce Co. bicycle map for anyone who wanted one. She has several dozen if anyone would like some.
- *National Trails Day* – Ernie reported that the Rainier to Ruston race had a record number of participants (275). He himself walked one leg of the relay for Dixie Gatchel's team, "Dixie's Chicks" – he was the lone rooster. There was no participation by ForeverGreen this year, and there were no featured speakers at the finish either. The only booth at the finish was the Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition.

**New Business:**

- *501 c 3 Non-Profit Status* – Discussion centered around the pros and cons of moving forward on obtaining 501 c 3 status with the IRS. This issue has been brought up several times in the past and most recently, Barbara had agreed to follow up on the paperwork. The pros discussion emphasized that with 501 c 3 status, we would assume fiduciary responsibility for our affairs, which is now overseen by the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. This would give us full control and autonomy over our finances. Some of the cons discussed were the amount of paperwork involved in becoming a 501 c 3, the requirement of filing federal tax returns, and regulations for employees. The general consensus of the discussion was to remain with the status quo under the GTCF. We should also have a conversation about the GTCF about our current relationship with them. Tim suggested we talk with similar 501 c 3's about their experiences.
- *Annual Trails Conference* – Preliminary planning discussion for this year's Pierce County Trails Conference was started. Jayme presented comments from the Trails Advisory Committee meeting to jump start the conversation. The board thought last year's location – the Puyallup Methodist Church – was well suited to this event and would be the first choice for this year. Repeating four of the breakout sessions, and holding one breakout session one time only would make it easier for people who would otherwise have to choose between concurrent sessions they wanted to see. Keep breakout sessions times short (approx. 20 minutes), and/or mix up breakout sessions with round table discussions. Send out a save-the-date card soon, and include place for respondents to add input into conference format, topics, etc. Some possible session topics included: bicycle lanes in Tacoma, the Chambers-Leach Creek Trail, Real Estate Values and Trails, Trail Amenities, Carbon Footprint, and UW research project on cities' bicycle and pedestrian plans. Possible keynote speaker from either Eugene, OR, or Davis, CA; Tim may have a contact with the city of Davis. Possible themes for the conference: Move Toward Sustainable Communities, or Moving Towards an Auto Free Community.
- *Letter of Support* – Pierce County Parks has requested a letter of support from ForeverGreen for their RCO grant application for the South Prairie-Buckley section of the Foothills Trail. Jayme presented a letter she had drafted. *Jane moved to accept the letter as written and to have Ernie sign it. John seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.* Jayme will send the signed letter right away.

#### **News, Updates, and Announcements:**

- *Jane* – Has sent via email a flyer for the Washington State Trails Coalition annual conference. The WCPPA is planning to have a booth at the conference and may be willing to share space with ForeverGreen. Also, the American College of Sports Medicine recently announced that the greater Seattle area (including Tacoma) ranked second on the American Fitness index, behind San Francisco.
- *John* – The Conservation Futures program is in need of people to fill vacancies on the Citizens Advisory Board. The CF program is also undergoing a review and comments will be presented to the county council. Helen Engle's annual potluck will be held on June 26 at her home in Fircrest. Pierce Co. Executive Ladenburg recently agreed to send an ordinance to the county council for the T/PDR program. If the council puts it on the ballot and it is approved, it could raise \$62.5-80 million over five years for the program. Finally, CLC will hold a Pierce Co. event in

September, and the Cascade Agenda recently received an international award from the London Financial Times.

- *Tim* – Several years ago, the Tacoma Wheelmen, WADOT, and the city of Tacoma agreed to spend up to \$100k on trail-road improvements in conjunction with the new Narrows Bridge. This project has been stuck in the design phase and Tim wanted to know how ForeverGreen could help move it forward. Could ForeverGreen convene a conversation between P.C. Public Works, WADOT, PC Parks, Gig Harbor, and Tacoma to try and get this going again?
- *Ernie* – A contract has been awarded for the Foothills Trail section between South Prairie and Buckley; construction should start soon.

**Closing Comments:**

- There were no official closing comments.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

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