

**Greenway Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
May 14, 2008**

**Members Present:** John Blethen, Steve Walker, Kenni Merritt, Glenn Merrill, Edie Norton, Jim Zander, Dan Remsen, Janie Pemble

**Members Excused:** Jack Kimmes, Eric Hirst

**Staff Present:** Tim Wahl, Liz Haveman

**Board Liaisons Attending:** Jim McCabe, Park Advisory Board liaison

**Guests Attending:** Julie Guy, Park Advisory Board member; Adrienne Lederer, Park Advisory Board member; Joe Yaver, GAC candidate; Damon Gray, GAC candidate; Dominique Zervas, GAC candidate; R. Scott Dorough, GAC candidate

**Agenda Review:** John Blethen moved R. Scott Dorough's interview up to immediately follow the other candidate interviews.

**Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Motion made and carried unanimously to accept the April 17, 2008 minutes as written.

**Public Comment Period:** Julie Guy stated that she lives in North Bellingham and is very interested in seeing more park land acquired in that area. She stated that she came to the meeting to request that the Greenway Committee consider acquisition of a specific piece of property on Cordata Parkway between Stuart and Horton Roads. The property consists of 12 parcels that total approximately 33 acres. Julie stated that it has been for sale for at least the last five years and she did not know the asking price. Julie believes that the property is being sold by the Trillium Corporation. Tim Wahl responded that the property would be added to the Greenway Committee's list of property to review.

Joe Yaver introduced himself as a member of Responsible Development and as a citizen committed to the preservation of Chuckanut Ridge. Joe distributed copies of two articles recently published on the front page of the Seattle Times entitled, "How We're Still Failing Our Sound" and "Saving Wetlands: A Broke Promise". Joe suggested that these articles may be of interest to the Greenway Committee as they consider these issues as they relate to properties that they work to acquire.

**New Business:**

Interviews of Greenway Advisory Committee candidates:

Informal interviews of four candidates were conducted to fill two vacancies on the Greenway Advisory Committee. One candidate will fill the remainder of Tom Chisholm's second term and one candidate will begin a new term as Jack Kimmes has opted not to seek reappointment for a second term. Interviews were conducted as follows:

- Joe Yaver 7:15-7:30 p.m.
- Damon Gray 7:30-7:45 p.m.
- Dominique Zervas 7:45-8:05 p.m.
- R. Scott Dorough 8:05-8:20 p.m.

Recommendation on Greenway Advisory Committee candidates:

Following the interviews and Committee discussion, it was the decision of the Committee to recommend to the Mayor that Damon Gray and R. Scott Dorough be appointed to fill the two vacancies. The Committee decided to leave the decision of which candidate to appoint to which vacancy to Mayor Pike.

**Sub-Committee Reports:** Edie Norton reported that Dan Taylor and Daniel Tepper from the Whatcom Parks & Recreation Foundation attended the May 14 Park & Recreation Advisory Board meeting and extended an invitation to Park Board and Greenway Advisory Committee members to attend a meeting on June 11 at 6 p.m. at the Tenant Lake Interpretive Center. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss whether WPRF might play a helpful role, and what that role might be, in working with the various stakeholders in the completion of the Bay to Baker Trail project. WPRF has invited staff and citizen advisory group members from Whatcom County and the cities of Bellingham, Lynden and Ferndale to the meeting.

Kenni Merritt reported that, as she had previously discussed with John Blethen and Eric Hirst, she will invite Bellingham City Councilman Barry Buchanan to attend the June Greenway Committee meeting.

The Public Outreach Committee decided not to do their city-wide Greenways Celebration at the Guide Meridian/Cordata Annual Picnic on June 28th. However, it was decided that Janie Pemble and Jim Zander would look into the possibility of providing some Greenways information for the picnic as part of the Cordata Park celebration.

Steve Walker reported that Mayor Pike has approved Jack Weiss's proposed Greenstreet/Bike Boulevards committee and Kim Brown recently sent an email to various committee members to set a date for the first meeting.

**Executive Session:** Executive Session was held from 9:10 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.

**Announcements:** Tim Wahl announced that a Committee walk has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 17. Details will be emailed to Committee members.

John Blethen noted that a new Walk Committee will need to be formed since Jack Kimmes' GAC term is ending May 31, 2008.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.