

**Greenway Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**June 19, 2008**

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

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

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

**Guests Attending:** Scott Dorough, GAC Elect; Joe Yaver, Responsible Development; Greg & Cyndy Anderson, King Mountain residents

**Agenda Review:** John Blethen added a discussion of the July and August meeting dates as New Business.

**Review of Previous Meeting Minutes:**

Motion made and carried unanimously to accept the May 22, 2008 minutes as written.

**Public Comment Period:** Joe Yaver introduced himself as a member of Responsible Development committed to preserving Chuckanut Ridge. Joe stated that through a public disclosure request, he obtained a copy of the developer's plans for Fairhaven Highlands and he brought a copy to share with the Chuckanut Ridge Research sub-committee of the Greenway Committee. Joe also requested an opportunity to meet with the Chuckanut Ridge Research sub-committee to share Responsible Development's findings and have an open discussion about the site. John Blethen responded that they thought they would wait until the Environmental Impact Statement is released. Joe responded that the EIS will not be complete for another 7 or 8 months. John Blethen stated that in that case, it would be wise to have a meeting prior to the EIS release. John and Dan Remsen and the other sub-committee members will review the document that Joe brought to the meeting and will work with Joe to set a meeting date in the near future.

**New Business:**

July and August Meeting Dates: Eric Hirst stated that the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan will go before the Planning Commission on July 17 during the regular Greenway meeting time. Eric suggested that the Greenway Committee re-schedule their July meeting, or plan to all attend the Planning Commission meeting in lieu of the regular July Greenway meeting. If necessary, the Greenway Committee could meet 1 hour before the Planning Commission meeting for executive session.

Janie Pemble mentioned that she was told that in years past, the Greenway Committee has held a retreat in place of their regular meeting in August and asked if Committee members were considering that this year.

After discussion, the general consensus of the Committee was to plan for a 6 p.m. executive session before the Planning Commission meeting on July 17. If Park staff do not have any executive session items, the executive session will be cancelled and all Committee members will attend the Planning Commission meeting as their July meeting. The Committee will have a regular August meeting, but will look into the possibility of having a picnic on another day and inviting Whatcom County Parks Board and Staff.

### **Sub-Committee Reports:**

Boulevard Park Shoreline Improvement Study and Over Water Walkway: Leslie Bryson stated that now that a consultant has been selected for the project, there is not a need for a standing sub-committee on the Boulevard Park Shoreline & Over Water Walkway. Leslie reported that there will be a public meeting on Thursday, June 26 at the Library Lecture Room. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. for the public to view the proposed plans, with a formal meeting starting at 7 p.m. Steve Walker asked what would be involved with improving beach access at Boulevard. Leslie responded that the shoreline at Boulevard Park has been damaged by storm erosion. They are looking at creating some pocket beaches similar to what was done at Marine Park in areas along the shoreline at Boulevard; not the entire shoreline.

Greenstreets Committee: John Blethen reported that the Greenstreets Committee held their 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on June 18 where they completed a map designating areas that need work with signage to connect street bike routes to greenway trails. Steve Walker passed a copy of the map around for Committee members to view. John reported that the next step is unsure at this point; Dick McKinley designated Kim Brown's work time with the Greenstreets Committee as 3 meetings. John stated that Kim Brown wants to meet with Park staff to determine who will take responsibility for which areas. Leslie Bryson stated that she would get a copy of the map from Kim and will determine which areas are Parks projects and will create a prioritized list.

Guest Invitations: Kenni Merritt reported that she invited Barbara Ryan and Barry Buchanan to the June meeting, but neither were available to attend as all City Council members are away at the AWC conference in Yakima. Kenni will invite Barbara Ryan to the August meeting as the July meeting will be at Planning Commission.

Monthly Walk: John Blethen stated that a new Walk Committee is needed now that Jack Kimmes is no longer on the Committee. Glenn Merrill volunteered to take over the Walk Committee. Tim Wahl reported that the Committee had a successful walk to a property on Lookout Mountain on June 17 with 6 Greenway Committee members and 3 Park Board members present.

Northridge Park Phase II: Leslie Bryson reported that a contract with a consultant, Barker Landscape Architecture, has been signed. The consultant is doing some site analysis to prepare something to present before a public meeting is planned.

North Bellingham Trail Plan: The North Bellingham Trail Plan is an appendix to the Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan that is going to Planning Commission on July 17. After the PRO Plan has gone to Planning Commission, Leslie will schedule a City Council public hearing for the North Bellingham Trail Plan. In the meantime, the Plan is being adhered to by City Planners and developers.

Public Outreach: The Greenway Committee will have a booth at the Cordata Neighborhood picnic on June 28 to celebrate the acquisition of Cordata Park and distribute some basic information on the role of the Greenways Program. Leslie will provide a map and some Park information to distribute.

**Executive Session:** Executive Session was held from 7:50 p.m. to 8:55 p.m. The Committee invited Scott Dorough, Greenway Advisory Committee member elect, to attend executive session.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.