

# **SNOHOMISH COUNTY CONSERVATION FUTURES PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD**

## **MEETING MINUTES July 23, 2010**

Members Present: Ann Boyce, County Councilman Dave Somers, Brian Parry (representing the Snohomish County Executive), and City Councilman Randy Lord

Staff: Marc Krandel, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation

Guests: Tom Teigen, Director, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation; Dianne Bailey, Senior Property Specialist, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m. Cooper in the Gary Weikel Conference Room, Willis Tucker Community Park, 6705 Puget Park Drive, Snohomish, Washington. A quorum of the Board was in attendance.

County Councilman Dave Somers was selected to chair the meeting by unanimous consensus of the Board.

Minutes from the October 28, 2009 meeting were reviewed. Randy Lord moved that the minutes from the October 28, 2009 meeting of the Conservation Futures Program Advisory Board should be approved. Ann Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 4-0.

Chairperson Somers suggested that all of the proposals submitted to the Board should be presented before any consideration is given to recommending funding for any of the projects.

The first item of business was the previously funded Lake Serene property acquisition. Tom Teigen, Director, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation recounted the history of this project including the status of negotiations with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and efforts to partner with Snohomish County Fire District #1 on the property acquisition and use. In discussions with Fire District #1, the Fire District agreed to acquire the property and Snohomish County would purchase a small piece of the property for open space. Mr. Teigen recommended the return of \$1,120,000 of the granted dollars to Conservation Futures fund balance leaving a \$400,000 for the County's acquisition of a small part of the property for open space.

Tom Teigen introduced a proposal to reduce the amount of funding previously awarded to purchase property at Skyview Tracts and return unneeded funding to

the Conservation Futures fund balance. Mr. Teigen explained that most of the parcels at the site had been acquired. In discussions with the Snohomish County Department of Public Works, it was felt that \$200,000 could be returned to Conservation Futures Fund Balance leaving \$440,000 to acquire eligible remaining parcels.

Tom Teigen explained that the \$120,000 funding to acquire the property near the Town of Index commonly known as the Index Town Wall could be returned to Conservation Futures Fund Balance. The Washington Climbers Coalition and the Access Fund, both organizations committed to the climbing community, have raised the money for the purchase of the property. They have been working with Washington State Parks who they felt was the best agency to hold the property.

The Board agreed by consensus that actions could now be taken with regard to moving funding to Conservation Futures Fund Balance.

*Brian Parry moved that **\$1,440,000**, representing \$1,120,000 from the Lake Serene project, \$200,000 from the Skyview Tracts project and \$120,000 from the Index Town Wall Project be returned to Conservation Futures Fund Balance. Ann Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.*

Hanson Property Acquisition: Tom Teigen re-introduced the proposal to acquire the Hanson Property, adjacent to the Evergreen State Fairgrounds. The property has been used on a leased basis for parking for the Evergreen State Fair as well as for swap meets and auto shows. Discussion by the Board included recognition of the potential value of the property to the Fairgrounds. Mr. Teigen indicated that the request was for **\$500,000**. This would assist Snohomish County in acquiring property valued at \$3,500,000. The remaining \$3,000,000 will come from Recovery Zone Development Bonds awarded to Snohomish County Parks for this purpose by the Snohomish County Council.

Lawson Property Acquisition: Tom Teigen explained that Snohomish County Parks was in discussions with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in ways to partner in the recreation development at the DNR Reiter Foothills Recreation Area. Parks is requesting **\$390,000** to acquire a parcel of land adjacent to the Reiter Foothills that would service as a parking lot and trailhead for the equestrian, mountain biking, hiking and ORV users of the 10,000 acre DNR property. Park can charge a fee for parking and camping that will help fund Park Ranger presence that the DNR itself cannot provide. State law does not allow DNR to assess a fee.

Cutter Property Acquisition: Tom Teigen explained that this property is the last end holding in Lord Hill Regional Park. The property owner has difficulty reaching his property on a park road that leads up and into the property on which he lives. The **\$320,000** requested for this acquisition will resolve several issues and make the park whole. The property is intended for open space.

Dashiell Property Acquisition: Tom Teigen explained that this property was originally a part of the abandoned Fortson Mill and adjacent to Snohomish County's Whitehorse Trail. The property is along the Stilliguamish River and offers a large previously paved area that can serve as a parking area for users of the Whitehorse Trail. Parks is asking for **\$230,000** to acquire the property.

The Board agreed by consensus that actions could now be taken with regard to project funding.

*Randy Lord moved that the County be awarded **\$500,000** for the purchase of the Hanson Property, adjacent to the Evergreen State Fairgrounds; **\$390,000** for the purchase of the Lawson Property, adjacent to Reiter Foothills; **\$320,000** for the purchase of the Cutter Property, and end holding in Lord Hill Regional Park; and **\$230,000** for the purchase of the Dashiell Property, adjacent to the Whitehorse Trail. Ann Boyce seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 4-0.*

Randy Lord shared the progress of the City of Mukilteo in acquiring property in Japanese Gulch

There being no additional business, Chairperson Somers declared the meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.