



## **Chinook Scenic Byway Meeting**

**March 2, 2016**

Attendance at Hart's office and on phone:

Board Members:

Trip Hart – President, Westside Citizen at Large Representative  
Steve Cadematori – Vice President, Community of Greenwater Representative and proxy for  
Enumclaw Chamber of Commerce  
Danielle Surkatty – Secretary/Treasurer, Eastside Citizen at Large Representative  
John Ernster, Federation Forest State Park Representative  
Thomas Noyes, Washington State Department of Transportation

Guests:

Cheryl Marshall, Legislative Assistant, Senator Pam Roach  
Jeff Vassallo - State Parks  
Curt Warber, Parametrix

### **Call to Order**

Trip Hart called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. This is not an official Board Meeting.

### **Status and Update – Curt Warber - Corridor Management Plan**

Curt has received comments from people and has integrated it into the final plan. He had reached out to some federal folks and was awaiting response, but hadn't heard back, so will wrap up the report. Curt's goal is by this Friday the CMP will be posted on the Parametrix website as a Draft Final. Trip will send a note to everyone on the Byway list once it's actually up on the Parametrix website. Certain needs are:

1. Awaiting Mt. Baker / Snoqualmie on Wayfinding signage on West side of the pass.
2. No resolution on future usage/development on the Rainier Viewpoint; even the sustained effort of chopping back the trees. Would have been nice to resolve during the initial planning of the site, but should be shifted at this point to an implementation action. Board would prefer sustainable efforts for cutting back the trees and an eventual plan for restrooms. It's a Roles & Responsibilities question as to who could be responsible.

Cheryl asked who would be the person to work with on that. Discussion on role of Hancock (who has contract for that area) and Muckleshoot Tribe, Forest Service, and WSDOT easement.

Two prong effort to move forward at this point

1. Finish up the Documents
2. Directions for implementation

**Gateway / Monument Signs – initial focus on Enumclaw side.**

Try to identify potential locations, try to get community stakeholders aligned on this to move towards implementation. We can start now.

**Wayfinding System signs** – visitor oriented directional signage (currently assessed as being insufficient). Steven suggested Trip come to next week's Chamber of Commerce meeting (Wed morning) – to talk about finalized CMP and first steps going forward for Gateway Monument sign in Enumclaw.

Agencies – that need to be in agreement /participate on our signage projects:

WSDOT - two regions - North Central and Northwest  
Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest  
Mount Rainier National Park  
Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Curt said that with that many agencies involved it's hard to get someone to step forward to "own/manage" the signage. Ownership has potential liability insurance implications with owning, so Curt cautioned us about "owning" any signs. We need to start a conversation about the signage plan, and share with various groups in Enumclaw. Someone on the Board needs to introduce the project to Puget Sound Regional Council folks. Potential federal grant funding is known to them – that funding runs through PSRC. Potential funding for the signs might be available through Federal Lands dollars. Curt wants to ask the federal agencies to begin thinking about the signage project for funding.

Cheryl asked if Congressman Richert's office liaisons with us? Trip said not significantly; they had touched base, but not firmly. Cheryl will touch base with them again. Cheryl suggested getting ahold of DoI secretary. Curt suggested contacting Tracy at MORA to find out if the big repaving project request is moving forward. If possible, it may be possible to fold our signage program into that project.

The Clampers (E Clampus Vitus) approached State Parks about doing projects. They are volunteers, builders and masons, and are planning to build two monuments for Federation Forest – to make big monuments with big rock works. The Seattle Chapter is headed up by Doc

Maynard, and they hold their indoctrination of new members up at Ranger Creek (opposite to Alta Crystal).

Reference: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E\\_Clampus\\_Vitus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E_Clampus_Vitus)

Department of Interior got some recent funding for large capital funds – part of it goes through national parks/forests. Mather Memorial Parkway – 20 years ago – Western Highways reduced the size of the signs going through the Mather. Curt recommends that we use a smaller sign concept too. Conscious effort to not “over sign” the corridor. This may be one of the reasons that it’s undersigned – it was intentional! But, as a result, visitors don’t know where to go! Visitors need more direction. At the time there were MOUs, which may be expired.

At this point, Curt advises not to add other capital projects to the focus list. New funding regulation of the Federal Program of Map 21 excludes non-profits, so now we can not apply for those funds. It has to be a federal agency that applies for the money. There are other good projects – but we may not have the capacity at this point to move forward on those projects.

**Implementation** – Taking concrete steps to transition group to the next phase!

Transition to Friends of the Byway – to reenergize the broad coalition of people who have been historically involved and broaden it. To be more “public facing” in our organization. Have the Friends Group more explicating public activities in building awareness and see if there are projects that the Friends group can help the agencies move forward on. Curt suggests starting the formation. Non-profit / Bylaws / structure – a possible “rebranding of the Byway Group”. Way to re-energize everyone. Suggest a \$10/year for cost of membership.

**Interpretive Center at Federation Forest:** Been working on roofing, ceiling, floor and lighting. Painting is next; HQ Interpretive folks are working on the displays. Soft opening soon, hopefully around April sometime. A Ranger will be working there for 8 months in the year – for the next two years (winter months not covered). Curt suggests that “Friends of the Chinook” could help make the opening more of a success once it occurs! [[[Note – there won’t be any type of ceremony for this soft opening. They hope to open the Center by Memorial Day]]]

Danielle reported – awaiting Trip and Steven to sign signature card at US Bank in Enumclaw after the Chamber meeting next week. Trip will apply for the EIN number, which the bank requires.

June Meeting – might be an opportunity to do a roll out on the CMP – one meeting on each side.

The call was adjourned at 4:52.

Respectfully submitted,  
Danielle Surkatty  
Secretary/Treasurer