



## **Annual Meeting Minutes**

**October 18, 2017**

Meeting Commenced 3:06 pm

**Board Members** present in person and by phone:

Trip Hart – President, Westside Citizen at Large Representative

Danielle Surkatty – Secretary/Treasurer, Eastside Citizen at Large Representative

Bill Zimmer – Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Naches Ranger Station

Steve Cadematori – Vice President, Community of Greenwater Representative

Tiana Enger – Crystal Mountain Resort Representative

Thomas Noyes – Washington State Department of Transportation

Troy Couch – Enumclaw Chamber of Commerce

Krystal Miller – Washington State Parks – Federation Forest

**Guests:**

Curt Warber – Parametrix

**Changed Board Member for State Parks – Federation Forest Ranger.**

Stationed at Federation Forest since June 2016 as Park Ranger, Krystal also serves as a Ranger 1 at these nearby state parks: Kanasket-Palmer State Park, Nolte State Park and Flaming Geyser Park. She replaces John Ernster on our board, who is moving to Sammamish.

**Corridor Management Plan**

Curt reported on status of CMP book: Pieces should all be together. Available electronically on the Parametrix FTP site: <http://www.parametrix.com/ftp> user name: chinook pass word: tipsoo in CMP folder.

Thomas had several suggestions for modifications to the plan, so Curt has addressed those changes. Curt said that if anyone has additional comments, they need to be made within the next week – by October 25, 2017. After which Curt will reprint the CMP. Those who distributed the early copies last fall should try to recall the them and replace with the new copies, once they've been handed out.

**Meeting on Portal Sign with City of Enumclaw's Tourism Advisory Board**

Steven reported on meeting this morning with Troy present where Trip proposed possible fundraising efforts, contributions from the City, placement of the sign, etc. Currently discussed placement: south side of road just west of the entrance to golf course where it would be most visible for those entering the Byway, heading east from Enumclaw. October 25<sup>th</sup> – City of Enumclaw Budget Workshop – Trip will attend to talk during the Public Comment section.

Ideally, we need a Project Manager for the sign, but no one in the group has expressed interest. Board discussed the project manager being someone from the City of Enumclaw if they were willing. Also, the City may have engineering resources.

### **Change of status of City/Town Board Members**

Steven motioned, and Thomas Noyes seconded that we move the City of Enumclaw and Town of Naches representatives to Honorary Members of the Board (non-voting), from full board members, based on attendance factors over the last several years. This will help us to achieve a quorum at more meetings. The vote carried unanimously. These two entities will remain on the distribution list and receive communications.

### **Board Meetings for 2017-2018 year**

December 13, 2017 - 2:00pm

March 7, 2018 - 2:00pm

June 6, 2018 - 2:00pm

September 19, 2018 – Annual Meeting 3:00pm to occur at Crystal Mtn. Ski Resort

### **Nomination of Board Officers & Board Member**

Troy moved and Steven seconded that Trip serve as president. Trip was voted in unanimously. Troy moved and Thomas seconded that Steven serve as vice president. Steven was voted in unanimously.

Danielle thought that we could separate Treasurer from the Secretary/Treasurer position – and as there was no nomination for the Treasurer position, we will keep the position vacant for now, with Danielle filling in in the interim.

Steven moved and Thomas seconded that Danielle serve as Secretary. Danielle was voted in unanimously.

Steven moved and Thomas seconded that we nominate Cheryl Marshall as a full member of the board as the Recreational User. Cheryl was voted in unanimously.

Thomas reported on the \$300,000 grant that was awarded to study Hwy 410 from Enumclaw to Bonney Lake to look at what needs to be done with the bridge over the White River and the traffic congestion.

Trip talked about the potential new trail bridge on the old railroad trestle, and it's being held up by funding. \$1.3 mil. was appropriated and should be coming from the Capital Budget, but it hasn't been released yet. Impacts of projects were also discussed. Two different cities and counties, along with the state are trying to resolve this, and tribal concerns on its effects of salmon passage are all being taken into account.

### **Bill Zimmer – report on the Fires**

Most of the burn on the east side along the byway happened from west of Fife's Peak Overlook to just west of Union Creek Trailhead – blackened trees visible. Lots of forest maintenance on the north side of Hwy 410 along the border of the Norse Peak Wilderness and Pleasant Valley Trail system gives a different look to the byway. Removed dead snags and hazardous fuels for firefighter safety.

Burned area emergency response team came from Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Forest on the westside along with California teams – various specialists looked at the landscape post-fire and came up with a plan to mitigate potential hazards, in particular debris flows. Their findings will be released in the next few days.

There are probably going to be recommendations to close the Union Creek Trailhead, Pleasant Valley Campground, and Fife's Peak Overlook. Kelly Lawrence, the Naches District Ranger will make the final determination. They could be closed from 1-4 years, depending on the conditions. The reason for closure is public health and safety.

Suppression and repair activities have been completed. Some of the stockpiled wood that had been cleared from the forest has been made available for firewood for the local communities and commercial fire wood cutting permits. We could use this fire incident as an educational piece for byway purposes. The National Forests will be having press releases soon about upcoming issues, and Bill will email them to Danielle.

Steven reported on several recreation facilities that were lost in the fire on the westside, primarily by Coral Pass campgrounds and Ranger Peak Fire Lookout.

### **Crystal Mountain**

Tiana reported on the scorched trees on the mountainside at the resort and their evacuation period. It was only just a change in wind patterns that saved many structures. Danielle encouraged board members to send pictures and/or press releases about the fires, so we can get the word out.

Tiana also reported on very major improvements to the resort. Five more gondola cabins and additional lighting on slopes were added, and with night skiing there hopefully will be less strain on the early morning commuters. There was also a 350% increase in snow-making capability, which is really significant.

### **Mather Memorial Parkway Signs**

Bill asked about the Blue Mather Memorial Parkway signs – they've had complaints that people can't read them. Asked if we want to repaint them and if we want to use the same color, or a different color. Curt said the consensus of the Byway was to give up on blue color and go back to the brown color for improved legibility. That has already occurred for one sign near Union Creek.

### **Federation Forest State Park**

Krystal talked about the renovations to the Interpretive Center, and it's happening in stages as chunks of money become available. They have started with the entrance, and a 3-D topographical map with the byway and Mt. Rainier. There is also a new desk and several new panels. The center and parking lot will close November 1<sup>st</sup>, but will re-open April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018. For the next two weekends, if the weather is nice, the center is open 11:00am – 4:00pm. Check the website for more information - <http://parks.state.wa.us/502/Federation-Forest>

For June, July and August 2018, the interpretive center should be open Friday-Monday, probably 11:00am – 4:00pm. In the shoulder seasons, if the weather is nice on weekends, it will open then as well.

### **Chip-Seal – 5 years ago 20 miles of Hwy 410**

Steven reported that the road up to the park boundary is starting to degrade pretty fast. This summer they did patches in the worst spots. Steven feels it will need a re-pave soon.

There are six inches at Chinook Pass as of the end of last week, but a warming pattern is coming. The pass will remain open for some time to come

### **Map Reprint**

Troy asked about the status of the map reprint. Curt has been able to convert the design file into something that can be changed / updated. Tiana mentioned that we had discussed looking at printing it in a tear-sheet form, because of the lower cost to produce.

The meeting was closed at 5:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Danielle Surkatty, Board Secretary