

North Kitsap Watchable Wildlife/Trail Meeting No. 1
October 16, 2006
MINUTES

I. PURPOSE

To identify and adopt a system of permanent wildlife corridors primarily to benefit larger game and also to identify and maintain a regional trail system that incorporates destination points and watchable wildlife opportunities.

II. ATTENDEES

Jon Rose, President, Olympic Property Group
Sue Schroeder, CSBA, Project Manager, Olympic Property Group
Brandon Bird, Project Manager, Olympic Property Group
Sarah Steffen, Real Estate Assistant, Olympic Property Group
Ryan Dicks, Cascade Land Conservancy
Cris Gears, Kitsap County
Greg Cioc, Kitsap County
Heather Young, Kitsap County
Jean Boyle, Kitsap Visitor and Convention Bureau
Jeff Davis, WSDFW
Mary McClure, Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council
Walt Elliott, Kingston Community
Bobby Moore, Kingston Community
Anne Blair, Kitsap Public Facilities District
Ken Shawcroft, Hansville Community
Allison O'Sullivan, Suquamish Tribe
Jay Zishke, Suquamish Tribe
Tom Curley, Suquamish Tribe
Hans Daubenberger, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Joe Sparr, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Ann Haines, Great Peninsula Conservancy
Fay and Ernie Linger, Audubon Society
Richard Anderson, Audubon Society
Naomi Massberg, Stillwaters Environmental Center
Richard Shaw, The Design Workshop (OPG Land Planners)
Lisa Berntsen, GeoEngineers (Consultants and Wildlife Biologists)
Jim Trainer, Treez Inc.
Kathleen Byrne-Barrantes, Grant Solutions

III. AGENDA

Introductions

Revisit Purpose of meeting

Wildlife Corridors

Multi-Use Trail

Watchable Wildlife

Other

Review Map of North Kitsap

Identify Existing Trail Efforts

Hansville - Ken Shawcroft

Kingston - Walt Elliott/Bobby Moore

Suquamish - Jay Zischke

Kitsap County - Greg Cioc

Elements of Successful Wildlife Corridor Plans

Jeff Davis, WSDFW

Others

Watchable Wildlife

Jean Boyle, KCVCB

Others

Trails as Community Amenities

Richard Shaw

Jon Rose

Recap of Benefits

What are they?

Identify constituent groups naturally aligned

Obstacles/Issues (i.e., properties, funding, etc.)

Discussion: Is this idea good enough, and realistic enough to spend time on?

Next steps and what's next

IV. MEETING NOTES

- Trails: the #1 amenity people request
- Mountain to Sound Greenway
- Kitsap is Forest to Sound missing link
- Community working on many other trails which can be linked into one

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. KEN SHAWCROFT - HANSVILLE COMMUNITY

1. They have been working to complete a trail system for 30 years in Hansville
2. The Greenway is over 200 acres and is owned by Kitsap Parks

3. Linked roadways and trails, quality and conditions vary (these are non-motorized trails)
 - a. Trails are mixed
 - b. Logging roads
 - c. Railroad beds
4. It is expected that 25 acres of land will be donated to the County; this property is adjacent to the Greenway
5. Work with the County to get grant for trail easements over Hood Canal across Hansville Rd. to Thors Rd.
6. There is so much more that we can do with the existing trails
7. We can work the Hansville trail system, through the Greenway, to the County pass through beaver pond, to OPG Properties. This is about a six mile loop
8. OPG to allow trail easements on OPG properties
9. Potential to bring connection through Driftwood Keys in Hansville
10. Connecting through DNR property continue up through Kingston
11. Ken attended meeting regarding Wildlife Corridor with future projects
 - a. What community needs to do within 10 years
 - b. Items proposed:
 - i. Outcome of wildlife corridor
 - ii. Selective logging
 - iii. Preserve spine of Kitsap County
 - iv. Protect Wildlife Corridor

B. WALTER ELLIOTT - KINGSTON COMMUNITY

1. This is a wonderful idea “a community linked by trails”
2. They have been working with Kingston community trails, trying to establish and maintain for the past 5 years
3. Conducted a survey
 - a. Miller Bay Rd.
 - b. Out to Port Gamble
 - i. 1/3 of the people responded
 - ii. Trails being #1 amenity and is most important
4. Kingston was originally a rural community which is becoming suburbia to a metro area
5. Trails
 - a. Commuters, road shoulders – hard
 - b. School Commuters soft/hard
 - c. Recreation soft (dirt or gravel)/hard (paved)
 - d. Walker
 - e. Horseback riding
 - f. Dog walking
 - g. Biking
 - h. Natural experience

6. Trail has multiple purposes
 - a. Multiple routes
 - b. Kingston to Indianola - hard
 - c. Access into Heritage Estates and Blodel
7. Strong Interest by:
 - a. Cascade biking
 - b. West Sound biking
8. Population needs community with trails
 - a. Keep up with population
9. Community with trails
 - a. Links with Schools
 - i. To include both high school and junior high
 - ii. Suggests that school district could be real asset to contact

C. JAY ZISCHKE - SUQUAMISH TRIBE

1. Involved with Indianola
 - a. Indianola Trail Grant
 - b. Greenway Plan
 - i. Concept was community plan
2. Greenway Elements
 - a. The Indianola Land Trust
 - b. Community profile
 - c. Acknowledge stream
 - d. Open space
 - e. Creates a lot of green space
3. To much cement can be a double-edged sword when trying to make a wider road for foot traffic, bikes etc. as the more cement provided and wider the road the faster people will drive. Wider roads make people feel safer and in turn they drive faster.
 - a. Making roads narrower will make people drive slower (safer community)
4. Indianola to connect with White Horse Trail
 - a. Along the road
 - b. Important to identify opportunities to have it off road, community will support
5. Overall
 - a. Indianola's trail system has been a community project that brought them closer and gave them the "community" feeling that exists today
6. There is a large wildlife (bear/deer) pushed out of developed areas
 - a. Large wildlife will move out to tribal land
 - b. Large wildlife need a lot of space

- c. Most are currently located on 800 acres through the area, though they need about a 1,000
- 7. Check DCD Trails County website
- 8. Through Jay's observation the community and County do not consider the White Horse project to be included as a link to a trail system
- 9. Maintenance for trail system
 - a. Much more expensive to maintain a trail than a road

D. TOM CURLEY - SUQUAMISH TRIBE

- 1. Tribe is interested in long term ecosystem
- 2. Would like to see something consistent with what they are doing
- 3. Green space – there is not a lot in Suquamish
 - a. They are limited on park space
- 4. Tribal land is owned by many different people
 - a. Wetlands
 - b. Prime wildlife
- 5. Tribal land is currently undivided, which in turn is not developed. This will change once land is passed on and has only one owner rather than multiple owners
- 6. Network logging roads
 - a. If people were to use tribal logging roads they would be trespassing
- 7. Trust lands
 - a. EPA makes the decision regarding trust lands
 - b. State statutes do not apply

E. GREG CIOC - KITSAP COUNTY

PROJECT 1:

- 1. Off road trail from Albertsons in Kingston to Indianola (Gunderson High School) to push to 2007
 - a. Held 2 meetings
 - i. One with residents
 - ii. One with community
- 2. Off-Road Trails in Kitsap County
 - a. 20 feet off road
 - i. Funded to build
 - b. The total off-road trail mileage is approximately 87 miles. This includes all four cities, the county and state parks. The county alone accounts for approx. 33 of these miles. This is a pretty accurate inventory, but it should be recognized that they were inventoried as 'unpaved,' as opposed to off-road.

- c. Kitsap County Web Site to include complete Trail System map
<http://www.kitsapgov.com/parks/openspace/062606.htm>

PROJECT 2:

- 1. Heritage Park
- 2. PSE 20 ft easement
 - a. Obtain easements from PSE to keep existing vegetation
 - b. Attempt to piggy back on PSE for a right of way
- 3. Problems with entrance
 - a. Looking for funds

PROJECT 3:

- 1. Shoulders in Hansville to be widened

PROJECT 4:

- 1. 305 Suquamish to Gunderson
 - a. Walk-ability
 - i. Schools
 - ii. Bike Trails
- 2. Whitehorse Phase 2 is being bonded; there will be logical connections with Heritage Park and the Arborwood trail
- 3. Mosquito Fleet caliber
- 4. Work with PSE re: routes

F. JEFF DAVIS - DEPT. OF FISH & WILDLIFE

- 1. Corridor
 - a. There are certain elements which make a successful wildlife corridor plan and need to be recognized
- 2. Elements to be considered
- 3. Key: Take care of large mammal population and with that you take care of the small
- 4. It is necessary to have large blocks at each end to be included in corridor and most importantly the corridor to be circular or enough open space to turn around with no bottlenecking.
 - a. Open space should be in natural habitat
- 5. 800ft on average for width of corridor for large animals
- 6. Corridors to be large enough for both man and large animals
 - a. To include bear and cougar
 - b. Seasonal closing for more sensitive areas
 - c. 1500ft in width for cougars

- d. We will need to explore surrounding area from one centralized location (bubble out on a map to a larger radius)
 - e. We will need to determine amount of land and space, to include depth width or length of trail or open space to accommodate for specific needs as to the size of wildlife, etc.
7. Current wildlife study
 - a. By stages
 - b. What are we planning for?
 - c. What do we want to see in the end?
 - d. Concerns with a bottleneck wildlife corridor
 8. Corridor too narrow
 - a. Trail should be circular
 - b. Cougar should not be brought to a dead-end but into a circular pattern with no dead ends
 9. We can't put the entire burden on Pope Resources. We need to keep surrounding areas involved because we do not want high density building
 10. Public Education:
 - a. Give examples of what to do and what not to do
 11. Problem
 - a. We have a strong fish law
 - b. But not a large species list
 - c. Cougar and black bear
 - d. Somewhat of an idea of how many large animals were counted through harvest, but really we have no idea
 12. Important to have a north corridor, south corridor, west corridor and east corridor

G. NAOMI MASSBERG - STILLWATERS ENVIRONMENTAL

1. Strong Wildlife in Indianola, White Horse, Arborwood, Carpenter Creek –DNR big game and small

H. KATHLEEN BYRNE-BARRANTES - GRANT SOLUTIONS:

1. Viewing wildlife is very fundable
2. Mosquito Fleet Trail
 - a. Tied into a recognized plan
 - b. Important to have this plan to segway information
3. You have to have accessible trails and hard surface trails
 - a. You have to satisfy all in community including ADA
4. Keep a manageable plan
 - a. Keep community involved
 - b. Perform in phases
5. We can piggy back onto the Mountain to Sound project

- a. Agency is Cascade
- b. Budget of \$15 million
- 6. Community needs to prioritize what is important to them in regards to trails and there budget
- 7. Principal sources
 - a. NOAA – National Ocean Atmosphere Administration
 - b. IAC – Inter Agency Counsel for outdoor recreation
 - c. NRTP – National Recreational Trade Program

I. RICHARD SHAW - DESIGN WORKSHOP

- 1. What are the classic amenities?
 - a. #1 most important community organizer is TRAILS
- 2. Design Workshop had to work with 82 separate jurisdictions for a trail system design over a large area
 - a. 50% in place
 - b. 10 year trail project in Tahoe which loops lake
 - i. We also used for erosion control
- 3. #1 reason people stay longer - trails
- 4. Economic
 - a. 40% of the economic/tourism drive
- 5. An entire layer beyond what was originated
 - a. Olympic Peninsula, Port Townsend to Port Angeles trail system
- 6. To get public funding don't say “recreational”, but say “Commuter” to obtain funding
 - a. Multiple use trails
 - b. Border Use
 - c. Boardwalk to Ferry
 - i. Recreational and Commuter
- 7. Should be classified as a transportation enhancement program
- 8. Should be considered or called Kitsap transit non-auto transportation program
- 9. Easy/moderate
 - a. Highway obligation of state
 - b. Plan in place
 - i. Regional trail system
- 10. Mosquito Fleet Trail
 - a. Building out plan
- 11. Heritage Byway Plan
- 12. www.kitsapCounty.com to obtain Mosquito Fleet Trail information
 - a. Driving route
 - b. And Mosquito Fleet Trail information
 - i. Goes to Bainbridge etc.
- 13. Bainbridge has a non-motorized plan

- a. They have received awards for this project
- b. Extremely successful
14. Funding is based on mixed trails
 - a. Some commuter
 - b. Some medium impact
 - c. Some very rough
15. Take the old 15 year mosquito trail and tie it into the big picture

J. JEAN BOYLE - KITSAP VISITOR AND CONVENTION BUREAU

1. Kitsap North, South East and West bike routes
2. Eagle watching and bear watching
3. Problems: We have no one who has a tour operation in Kitsap County
4. We have a tourism gap
5. Jim Trainer met with local escapes looking to book people to take a work vacations, local getaways. Jim feels this has definitely been successful and is evolving as there is a definite market for watchable Wildlife Tours etc.
6. We need to present these ideas and proposals to the Governor and to the appropriate directors of programs like these

K. CLOSING

1. Important to Preserve
2. Wildlife Corridor is an amenity
3. People that move here love wildlife, trees and open spaces
4. None of the other existing Greenways have been moved along
5. Group supports and strongly agrees with this idea, this proposal, and project. It is refreshing for our community.

Respectfully submitted:
Sarah Steffen
Real Estate Assistant
Olympic Property Group