

SNOHOMISH COUNTY CONSERVATION FUTURES PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Sept. 26, 2012

Members Present: Dan Bartelheimer (Citizen Representative), Ann Boyce (Citizen Representative), City Councilmember Randy Lord (Large City Representative), Carla Nichols (Small City Representative), Brian Parry (County Executive Representative), County Councilmember Dave Somers, County Councilmember Stephanie Wright.

Staff: Dianne Bailey, Park Property Administrator, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation, Sharon Swan, Senior Park Planner, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation and Tom Teigen, Director, Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation.

1. The special meeting of the Conservation Futures Program Advisory Board (Board) was called to order at 3:11 p.m. in the Jackson Board Room, Drewel Office Building, 8th floor, 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, Washington. A quorum of the Board was in attendance. The purpose of the special meeting was consider proposed changes to the previously awarded Ellingsen project. As a special meeting, review and approval of previous meetings was not included in the agenda, or any other items.
2. Proposed Change to Ellingsen Project: Dianne Bailey, Park Property Administrator, provided background on the Ellingson project. The original proposal was for \$900,000 Conservation Futures funding to be matched with \$900,000 match from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for acquisition of development rights on land located south of Stanwood, adjacent to Hat Slough. A previous appraisal was completed on the property and the value was less than \$1.8 million. Matching funding from NRCS is no longer available and a proposal was made to continue with acquisition, using only funding from Conservation Futures. Because this is a change from the original acquisition proposal and fewer acres are expected to be secured, Board approval is sought to allow acquisitions to go forward with removal of match requirement and project name change to 'Port Susan Farms, LLC.' In addition, a request has been received from Forterra, project proponent, for costs associated with purchasing and appraisal process. It is estimated that this cost will not exceed \$17,500.

Discussion continued between Board members, staff and Jeff Ellingsen (property owner) and Elizabeth Johnston (Forterra), who were present for the meeting. The board discussed priorities of different parcels for acquisition, potential change in value of

property, timing of acquisition and contract with Forterra for up-coming purchase and appraisal costs associated with acquisition.

Councilmember Stephanie Wright moved that the Conservation Futures Advisory Board recommends that staff be authorized to develop a contract with Forterra for acquisition costs associated with the Port Susan Farms LLC project; that the Port Susan Farms LLC project be authorized to move forward up to the value previously approved to be provided from Conservation Futures by approval of the County Council by motion and that the match requirement be removed; and that the Conservation Futures Advisory Board encouraged Forterra to seek additional funding to replace lost NRCS match. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0.

3. Adjournment: There being no additional business, Chairperson Dave Somers declared the meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m..

9-26-2012

Special Meeting
Conservation Futures

Program Advisory Board

Sign in:

Name

Email

Elizabeth Johnston, Forterra

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Jeff Ellingsen

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