

THE MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
February 8, 2023

TIME AND PLACE

Pursuant to timely notice, the Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust was held on February 08, 2023, beginning at 7:00pm in virtual format via Zoom.

PRESENT

Present were 37 voting Directors and 1 non -voting Director whose names are indicated on the attached Record of Board Attendance (Attachment 1). Several guests were also present (Attachment 1).

President Alison Washburn served as Chair of the meeting and Sharon Linton as Secretary. A copy of the Agenda for this meeting is attached to these minutes (Attachment 2).

PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Welcome

Alison Washburn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Action was taken on the following matter:

Approval of the Board Minutes. Minutes of the November 9, 2022 Board Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Sharon Linton and seconded by Jon Hoekstra. The board voted to approve November 9, 2022 minutes with minor corrections.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

- Issaquah Creek restoration received more than \$1,000,000 in Community Project Funding! Thanks to Congresswoman Kim Schrier's support of this major restoration effort in the Greenway NHA.
- Environmental Education and Research Center (EERC) at St. Edward State Park received \$800,000 in Community Project funding through Congresswoman Suzan DelBene's office! Funds to create educational pathways to jobs in the green economy.
- Washington State Legislative session is underway. Some of the proposals we are supporting include:
 - WWRP - \$159 million in projects (Gov. budget proposed \$120 million)
 - City of Bellevue request to phase Move Ahead Washington funds (already allocated) for \$300K in 2023 and the remaining \$6.6 million in 2025 for construction of next phase of Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail from 142nd Place SE on to (almost) 150th Avenue SE. (Done!) Continued Eastrail development of Wilburton Trestle and I-90 Steel Bridge.
 - No Child Left Inside outdoor education grant program - \$9 million (doubling of the program would fund more of the \$12 million in grant applications.)
 - WA Outdoor School - \$64 million for day and overnight camping experiences for students.

- Palouse to Cascades State Park Trail - \$1.4 million trestles and structures that were burned in forest fires, \$2.49 Kittitas Depot renovations
- DNR Trust Land Transfer \$25.6 million for this critical land conservation program
- DNR Community Forest Management \$2.84 million operating budget for community forests, this is critical to the Teanaway Community Forest
- Charlie Raines noted that Transportation funding for phase 4 of I-90-Snoqualmie pass east is being delayed which could push back completion of that route by 10-15 years.

BOARD MEETING BUSINESS

1.NHA

- Jon announced the new NHA Coordination Manager is an internal hire of Caroline Villanova.
- The NHA Management Plan was approved by the Department of the Interior in December 2022. This officially ended the NHA advisory committee's work. Elizabeth Lunney thanked all members for their efforts. A new reconstituted NHA committee will be established to help guide implementation of the NHA management plan.
- Approval of our management plan makes the Greenway eligible for the next tier of federal financial support. The NHA program received increased funding in the most recent Federal budget, and we await info about our new allocation.
- Caroline Villanova and Nicky Pasi went to Washington DC for a meeting of Association of NHAs and to lobby with representatives and senators re: ongoing funding and support for NHAs. Caroline met Susan Thiel at NPS who remarked that the Greenway's NHA plan stood out as one of the best they have seen. Jon thanked Sally Jewell for an enthusiastic call to her contacts in DC to garner support for our plan.
- Congress recently passed an NHA program bill that formally established the National Heritage Area system, extended authorizations through 2035, created more consistent criteria and standards for designating and evaluating NHAs, and designated 7 new NHAs bringing the total count to 62.

2. Operations Committee

Tor announced a number of new staff hires and additional open positions and encouraged board members to share these openings in their networks.

3. Engagement Committee

Marie Quasius shared an update about board engagement noting that the committee is working on nominations of new and renewing board members in advance of our Annual Meeting in June 2023.

4. Fundraising Committee Report.

Mike Woodsum thanked key donors, and corporate donors including several Board Members, for their support at this critical time.

PRESENTATIONS

Golden Bricks Events – Chevon Powell www.goldenbricks.com

The board heard an inspiring presentation by Chevon Powell. She shared a story of how her experience of being questioned by law enforcement while hiking solo in Vermont led her to found her own outdoor-based BIPOC-centered event company called Golden Bricks Events. Its mission is to create opportunities for BIPOC to feel safe and welcome in the outdoors. Golden Brick's signature event is an annual three-day outdoor festival, called Refuge Outdoor Festival at Tolt McDonald Park which has connected thousands of BIPOC recreationalists and outdoor enthusiasts to Washington's outdoors.

DEI Moment

Cora introduced this segment of the meeting, and then attendees broke into small groups on Zoom to discuss in-group and out-group definitions and to help the board increase awareness and normalize conversations about inclusion, equity and diversity. This break-out helped us as board members practice using language that is open and welcoming to anyone who we might encounter especially as we experience nature in the Greenway.

Greenway Prioritization Framework

Jon shared with the board the preliminary work he is doing with staff to set priorities for the Greenway. This process will help identify the things we must do in the year ahead; not just NHA but also other programs, initiatives and commitments that are important to the Greenway Trust's mission. This work will also identify areas where we may lean in to support the work other organizations are doing. Ultimately the prioritization process will inform the budgeting process and individual work plans so staff can see how the work they are doing contributes to the Greenway's mission.

CONCLUDING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Alison shared closing remarks, shared a reminder about upcoming events, and noted Board Meeting dates for the upcoming fiscal year.

FY23 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 6:00-8:30PM, Swauk-Teaway Grange, Cle Elum

Wednesday, June 7, 6:30-9:00PM, Jim Ellis Memorial Preston Community Center

RSVP! SPRING FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

Saturday, May 20, 2023, Lake Sammamish State Park

Board members are asked to be table captains and invite guests.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.



Sharon Linton (signed digitally)

Sharon Linton, Secretary

MOUNTAINS TO SOUND GREENWAY TRUST BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING ATTENDEES 2.8.23
Attachment 1

Greenway Trust Board of Directors

Cathy Baker
Mark Boyar
Laurie Benson *
Allison Capen
Susan Carlson
Kitty Craig
Deloa Dalby
Bob Ellis
Kurt Fraese
Lindsay Frickle
Laura Hoffman
Katherine Hollis
Jon Hoekstra
Cora Johnson
Karl Forsgaard
Matt Grimm
Andrew Kenefick
Melanie Kitzan
Ken Konigsmark
Janet Knox
Yvonne Kraus
Ken Krivanec
Danny Levine
Sharon Linton
Josh Lipsky
Elizabeth Lunney
Doug McClelland
Roberta McFarland
Jim Reinhardsen
Tom O'Keefe
Amanda O'Rourke
Marie Quasius
Charlie Raines
Vik Sahney
Meredith Shank
Al Smith
Chris Thomas
Alison Washburn

** ex officio*

Guests

Sally Jewell (Director Emeritus)
Jen Brenes
David Kappler
Larry Leach
Rachel Lodge
Larry Phillips
Chevon Powell
Brian White

Greenway staff

Amy Brockhaus
Tor Bell
Jamie Chen
Kay Emery
Robyn Hall
Nicky Pasi
Vince Pruis
Lindsay Spangler
Caroline Villanova
Mike Woodsum
Katy Yeh



Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust Mission:

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust leads and inspires action to conserve and enhance the landscape of the Mountains to Sound Greenway NHA, ensuring a long-term balance between people and nature.

ATTACHMENT 2

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Board of Directors Meeting
February 8, 2023, 7:00-8:30pm – via ZOOM**

Chair: Alison Washburn

- | | | |
|-------|--|--------|
| I. | Welcome | 7:00pm |
| II. | Approval of Minutes – (VOTE) Sharon Linton, Alison Washburn | 7:04pm |
| III. | Announcements and Updates – Jon Hoekstra | 7:05pm |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Greenway babies• Issaquah Creek restoration funding• Environmental Education and Research Center at St. Edward State Park funding• Washington State legislative session proposals | |
| IV. | Board of Directors Business | 7:15pm |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NHA Advisory Committee – Elizabeth Lunney, Jon Hoekstra• Operations Committee Report – Amanda O’Rourke, Tor Bell• Board Engagement Committee Report – Marie Quasius, Amy Brockhaus• Fundraising Committee Report – Ken Krivanec, Mike Woodsum | |
| V. | Golden Bricks Events – Chevon Powell | 7:35pm |
| VI. | DEI Moment: “In-Group, Out-Group” – Cora Johnson | 7:55pm |
| VII. | Introduction to Priority-setting Framework – Jon Hoekstra | 8:15pm |
| VIII. | Closing – Alison Washburn | 8:25pm |

GREENWAY BOARD ENGAGEMENT

What will YOU do in the Mountains to Sound Greenway today?

FY23 BOARD MEETING CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 6:00-8:30PM, Swauk-Teaway Grange, Cle Elum

Wednesday, June 7, 6:30-9:00PM, Jim Ellis Memorial Preston Community Center

SAVE THE DATE! SPRING FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST:

Saturday, May 20, 2023, Lake Sammamish State Park | mtsgreenway.org/breakfast

SAVE THE DATE! ANNUAL DINNER AND CELEBRATION

Wednesday, November 1, 2023, Seattle Convention Center | mtsgreenway.org/annualdinner

Board member calendar, policies, information: mtsgreenway.org/boardmember

Visit this Board Resources page for organizational policies, board member information, and presentations including those on tribal governance and history.

Engagement Opportunities

Greenway Volunteer Events Saturdays | Register at: mtsgreenway.org/volunteer

Saturday, February 18, 9:00am-noon: Native Plant Nursery at Lake Sammamish State Park

Saturday, March 4, 9:00am-noon: Native Plant Nursery at Lake Sammamish State Park

Questions or interested in a large group event? Swan Phongwarinr, 206.473.7238 / volunteer@mtsgreenway.org

Join Greenway education program manager Becca Kedenburg on an educational tour:

- **Friday, March 17, 1-4pm: Issaquah Creek** walking tour w/ Greenway restoration projects manager Dan Hintz, as well as representatives from Washington State Parks, Lake Sammamish Urban Wildlife Refuge Partnership, and Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
- **Wednesday, March 22, 9am-12pm: King County's South Wastewater Treatment Plant** with optional tour afterwards of Duwamish River sites from 12-2pm
- **April 6, 12:30-2:30pm: Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery** tour and salmon dissection

RSVP to becca.kedenburg@mtsgreenway.org or 206.678.3893.

Interested in speaking with your state legislators on behalf of funding for public lands?

<https://mtsgreenway.org/blog/2023-legislative-priorities/>

Washington Trails Association Hiker Rally Day, Online – March 14, 2023

<https://www.wta.org/get-involved/events/calendar/rsvp-forms/sign-up-hiker-rally-day-2023>

The Wilderness Society Lobby Day, Olympia – March 16, 2023 – kitty_craig@twso.org

EXPLORE THE GREENWAY 2023: mtsgreenway.org/get-involved/events/trips/