

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL
Meeting #38, September 11, 2008, 7 p.m., Fauntleroy Church

ATTENDEES

Watershed residents: Judy Pickens, Dennis Hinton, Steev Ward, Peggy Cummings, Chris Nack, Chris Kim, Kurt Edelman

Fauntleroy Community Association: Phil Sweetland

Fauntleroy Church: Randy Sleight

Guest: Dennis Clark, WIRA 9 Salmon Habitat Recovery

Facilitator: Randy Sleight

Scribe: Dennis Hinton

NOTES

1. Introductions

2. May 8 minutes

Approved as circulated.

3. Treasurer's report

Dennis Hinton reported \$2,301.69 in the Council checking account.

4. In the media

Dennis reported KIRO-TV interviewed Judy Pickens as one of five honored community activists to be featured in individual two-minute segments on their environmental contributions to the Seattle community. The activist with the most on-line votes will get \$5,000 to give to an environmental non-profit (EarthCorps is Judy's choice). Look for her on TV and cast your vote.

5. Pier interpretive signage

Chris Kim showed a proof of the interpretive sign about Fauntleroy Creek that will be installed at the ferry dock to complete the reach-to-the-beach project. Art was created by Karen Brussat Butler, Elizabeth Butler's mom. All thought the sign wonderful (along with the treats that Chris brought from Bakery Nouveau).

Action item: Chris and Elizabeth will choose the best sign material to hold up against vandals and salt spray, place the order, and work with Ware Lantz and the terminal manager to mount it on the railing along the pedestrian walkway.

6. WRIA 9 salmon habitat recovery presentation

Dennis Clark presented a Powerpoint update on salmon habitat recovery efforts in the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound watershed involving 17 local government entities. He commended the Council for our work on the creek and nearshore, in keeping with the region's long-range plan for salmon recovery and flood mitigation. Dennis handed out a comprehensive map, "The Green-Duwamish River - Connecting

People With a Diverse Environment,” copies of WRIA 9's quarterly newsletter, “News Fit for a King,” and a "Fit for a King" poster.

7. Lower-watershed projects/news

Seaweed removal update: On behalf of Alice Kelly (State Dept. of Ecology), Judy reported that Federal Way has its first haul-out on the calendar. Because of cool weather to date (and little of the stench that is caused by warmer weather), no haul-out is scheduled for Fauntleroy Cove. She is in conversation with Alice and the community association about the feasibility of asking the Legislature to allow unspent money for Fauntleroy (some \$75,000) to carry over for use next summer.

Salmon watch preparation: Judy reminded the group that there were 89 coho spawners counted last year, all coming late and within a 10-day period. Few coho have been spotted or caught in the cove so far this year. Consequently, the salmon watch will again start with a skeleton crew in late October until the numbers justify more coverage.

8. Upper-watershed project/news

Fenton Glen restoration: Judy reported that a grant proposal has gone into the city's Aquatic Habitat Matching Grant Program and a pre-proposal has gone into King County to get most of the match. At present, the project is divided into two years, focusing on 100 feet of creek and ½-acre of land owned by Fauntleroy Church. A big part of the project will be getting rid of noxious weeds, especially the yellow archangel that blankets the site.

Pet-waste signage: Judy reported that we had received a \$300 grant from State Ecology to purchase the signs - and much paperwork to document same. She expects to get the signs from a local supplier so that they can be fully tailored.

Slippery boardwalk: Carol Baker sent word via Judy that her crew has installed a wire grid over a slippery-when-wet portion of the boardwalk into wetlands due east of the big bridge. Carol has asked for our feedback on its effectiveness.

Forest Court trail washout: David Follis reported (in writing) that the last major rain washed out the head of the Forest Court trail - again. Peggy Cummings summarized drainage problems in north Arbor Heights during that storm and repairs the city made the following day.

New rogue trails: Kurt Edelman inquired if anyone else had noticed new rogue trails on the south side of the park. He is concerned about their effect on habitat as well as privacy of adjacent yards.

Action item: Kurt will contact Carol Baker and work with her toward shutting down the trails.

9. Special projects

Stormwater/CSO code update: Randy reported that the new stormwater/CSO code is generally adequate. (He represented the Council at several meetings.) He emphasized the significance to nearshore habitat of the fact that major storms discharge raw sewage into Puget Sound through the combined-sewer system.

Action item: Randy will recommend further comments on the draft update for Council action in November.

Preview: Stormwater- and creek-related priorities though 2013: In Chris May's absence (back surgery), Judy explained that his intention is to brainstorm with the Council what additional stormwater- and creek-related projects we see as priorities over the next five years. She asked that we think about what those might be, including the drainage problems that Peggy just raised in north Arbor Heights that (among other things) send yard and street runoff into the creek.

10. Executive Committee projects/news

Fauntleroy Fall Festival, Sunday, October 19, 2-6 p.m.: Volunteers are needed to wear a funny suit (Scoopy Doo, a dog) to distribute poop bags and emphasize reducing fecal-coliform contamination of the creek and cove. Also to help make the wildly popular salmon hats. Interested? Contact Judy.

Upcoming community events: A first-time flier and table tent are promoting several community events, including the **annual salmon drumming** (Sunday, October 26, 5-6 p.m. at the Fauntleroy fish ladder viewpoint) and the **10th annual salmon watch** with sign-up starting October 19.

November 11 meeting agenda

- Brainstorming stormwater and creek-related priorities - Chris May, SPU
- Restore our waters outreach - Susan Harper and Miles Mayhew, SPU
- Upper creek macro study report - Arbor Heights 4th/5th graders
- Stormwater/CSO code update commenting - Randy
- Wayfinding signage - David Follis
- Rogue trails/Forest Court trail washout - Carol Baker
- Fenton Glen project - Judy
- Salmon Watch 2008 - Judy