

**Fort Worden Public Development Authority
Regular Business Board Meeting • Oct. 17, 2012
MINUTES**

Location: Cotton Building, 607 Water Street

Roll Call: 8:35 a.m.

Attendance: Tim Caldwell, Anne Murphy, Scott Wilson, Lela Hilton, Bill Brown, Gee Hecksher, Cindy Finnie. State Parks liaison Roger Schmitt, Executive Director Dave Robison.

Public: Alfred Chaswell, Kevin Alexander, Carla Main, Allison Alderman, Jim Costello

Staff/Board Discussion with State Parks Administrative Leadership:

Dave Robison reviewed discussion with State Parks Administration on Oct. 15, with Don Hoch, Larry Fairleigh, Mike Sternback, Eileen Frisch. Discussion was productive and clarified State Parks' issues with the Business Plan. State Parks administration generally supports the plan but has concerns over finances. Current cost-avoidance estimates by State Parks show this arrangement will cost SP more money; also administration is concerned about the management fee proposed for campground reservation system. Discussion of PDA's role in promoting and selling the Discover Pass to raise new revenues. It seems clear the Washington Federation of State Employees will turn out in force at the Oct. 25 Parks Commission meeting in opposition to the Business Plan, and proposing union-based alternatives to the PDA.

- Tim Caldwell: State Parks has no Plan B.
- Lela Hilton: What do they get for cost-avoidance?
- Bill Brown: I see a trap -- money is spent but at end of day, they'll say 'Thanks folks.' We could raise money, spend it all, but nothing comes from it. They want to get something for nothing. We can't do that.
- Cindy Finnie: We'll know a lot more about the Parks Commission's attitude after the Oct. 25 meeting.
Bill Brown: We can stand tall. We have a plan; it's a good plan; it works. It's in their hands now, not ours.

Review of McPherson, Cahill Peer review:

- Dave: Both offered good comments; many of their comments were incorporated in the revised draft plan.
- Bill Brown: McPherson said, if this is going to work you have to do it quickly.

Response to WSFE

Board acknowledged receipt of the WSFE letter dated Oct. 12, 2012. Scott will draft a response for approval and signature by Chair Finnie, to be mailed as soon as possible.

State Parks Commission meeting Oct 25 in Vancouver

- Dave will go a day early to the work session. Hearing comes up Oct. 25, 1 pm.

- Dave reviews discussion/presentation of business plan:
 - Brian Trusty will present the plan
 - Commission will ask questions
 - Open up for public comment
 - Board members asked to obtain letters of support from various groups and entities. Travel arrangements to Vancouver planned.

Public comment

- Rodger Schmitt said State Parks has been saying it will provide some financial support for the PDA.
- Kevin Alexander said Discover Pass revenues have many restrictions as to where the money can go. Remember, everything the PDA does for the Park stays with the Park -- including the \$550,000 investment.
- Carla Main: Encourage Partner board members to attend the meeting.
- Rodger Schmitt: Under any scenario, Fort Worden will not be closed; Peninsula College should feel comfortable moving ahead with 202.
- Scott Wilson: PDA should move ahead with this to support it as a parallel track with the PDA. Cost estimate has gone up.
- Dave Robison: Design development for 202 is underway. We need follow-up meeting with Dr. Robins to clarify responsibilities. Tenure agreement with State Parks and College is underway.

Adjourn: 11:05