



Pinchot Partners

WORKING ON COMMON GROUND

November 15, 2023 | 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

Location: St Mary's Mission, Toledo, WA

In attendance

Board Members: John O'Brien, Ashley Short, Anjolene Ngari, John Squires, Fred Norman, Matt Comisky*, Sharon Hanna*. *Staff:* Janene Ritchie, Constance Mears.

US Forest Service: Theresa Tanner CV Ranger, Josh Chapman*

Guests and Visitors: Brook Squires, Andrew Spaeth*, Forest Resiliency Div., Sheryl Hall, GP* Trash Force; Lenee Langdon, Discover Lewis County; Christina Donehower, CIT; Peter Sandifer, aide to Marie Gluesenkamp-Perez

Introductions

BUSINESS MEETING

Today's agenda. MOTION to approve: John Squires; 2nd David Owen. **CARRIED.**

October meeting minutes. MOTION to approve: Anjolene Ngari; 2nd: Ashley Short. **CARRIED.**

Treasurer's report, Ashley Short: Current balance of **\$2,307.91** in the checking account. Check pending from Janene for accidental \$500 charge. Credit Card balance is \$0.

MOTION to approve: David Owen. 2nd: Fred Norman. **CARRIED.**

Action items / Key Tasks

ACTION ITEMS:

Janene will share info about her Udall Certification courses with the Washington Forest Collaborative Network.

● In progress.

Janene will create and email a survey to see what the Board wants on the Annual Meeting agenda.

● In progress: Due January 17, 2024

Janene will schedule a separate meeting to discuss the Partners' Yellowjacket Comment letter.

COMPLETE, letter submitted November 29, 2023

Constance will contact Isabel Vander Stoep about upcoming events (fire field trip, annual meeting, Discover Lewis County event).

COMPLETE

PROGRAMMING MEETING

Operations Update: Janene Ritchie

Janene is planning to request funds from Cowlitz Tribe Statewide Fund to finish the Tree Round Project. She is working on a few other ideas, including a fundraising and development plan.

Taxes: Pinchot Partners hired MountainView to file taxes. They have filed an extension for fiscal year 22. We have been using Quickbooks since spring, but there are still glitches in payroll. Mountainview will help Janene and Ashley in categorizing expenses accurately in Quickbooks.

Janene activities:

Janene completed the second of five courses toward a Certificate in Conflict Resolution for Collaboratives through the John S McCain III National Center for Environmental Conflict Resolution. The course will be a great resource within the collaborative.

In an effort to keep Board apprised of Janene's time, she has switched to using an app called Clockify that can track time by what grant the work relates to. It can also create a pie chart to show time spent by activity.

Anjolene:

Udall training? Can that be shared with WFCN folks? Janene will share.

Forest Service Update: Theresa Tanner

Theresa suggested having a second fire-focused Field Trip like the one Nov 8 at Iron Creek Campground. Theresa will provide more info on a January Field Trip to discuss the Cowlitz Complex Fire. The Forest Service will be considering fire safety during Skate Creek vegetation management planning.

Riparian Buffers: Discussion ensued about changes that NOAA and National Marine Fisheries want to make to existing riparian no-cut buffers.

Anjolene said the Darrington Collaborative wrote a comment letter and will share with Josh and the Board.

Josh Chapman would like to present information on NEPA and vegetation management at the Dec meeting.

Environmental Analysis: Yellowjacket, Theresa Tanner

Yellowjacket EA: The revised draft EA has been published and a notice put in the paper. Comments are due by November 30.

Hiring and positions:

- Temporary seasonal positions are now closed.
- Converted some temp positions to permanent (for instance, trail crews) to extend the hiring period until Nov. 22.
- The Forest Service held a STEM event to attract young people to forestry work.
- FS was unable to fill the Timber Sale Position.
- Forest Hydrologist position closes Nov. 17. GS57 position closes tomorrow. The FS released a vacancy announcement yesterday for a GS12 NEPA lead, with possibility for housing options and paid moving costs.

Legislative Update: Peter

Next deadline for appropriations is Friday. The federal government is funded at least until January 7. A new bill passed through the House which adds access to Tribes to participate in Good Neighbor Authority projects. Still needs to pass in the Senate.

Peter conveyed appreciation for the August 8 Field Tour and for hosting the Joint Collaborative meeting.

She introduced another bipartisan bill, Streamlining Federal Grants, which would standardize all grants across Federal agencies.

The National Forest Foundation used to have a collaborative grant program. Marie's office emails a Grant Opportunity list every month to nonprofits, including Pinchot Partners.

Anjolene suggested having a grant funding conversation in January. What are the gaps?

New Business: Janene Ritchie

2024 Annual Meeting Dates

The group voted to set the Annual Meeting dates for Tuesday and half-day Wednesday, March 19-20, 2024, in Packwood. Location to be determined. Janene will create a survey to gather feedback on what the Board would like to see on the agenda.

Recreation Zone of Agreement Discussion: Janene Ritchie & ZOA committee

Janene explained the process by which this Zones of Agreement was created. The first half of the document had not changed since the Board reviewed it in July. The focus of the current review was to changes made in the section Mitigating the Impacts of Increased Recreation.

Key points: The Committee agreed that Pinchot Partners does not want to wade into the user vs. user conversation and that Recreation isn't a top priority for this group.

MOTION: to approve the Recreation Zone of Agreement Document (as is) David Owen; 2nd John Squires -
MOTION **CARRIED**

Constance will package the Zones of Agreement for public consumption to show where our common ground is and post on our website.

Janene will come up with a new list of options for Zones of Agreements based on themes from previous EAs. Anjolene suggested we hire a contractor to do that work.

Yellowjacket EA comment letter review: Janene Ritchie

Janene will schedule a separate meeting (or meetings) to address the Yellowjacket comment letter via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 12:06 pm
Minutes prepared by Sharon Hanna
Notes taken by Constance Mears