



MEETING MINUTES

Land Bank Commission Meeting October 22, 2010

Craft Room, Mullis Community Senior Center, 589 Nash Street, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island

Commission Members in Attendance: Amanda Azous, Tom Cowan, Nancy Greene, Jim Skoog, and Doug Strandberg.

Commission Members Absent: Lisa Wolford.

Land Bank Staff in Attendance: Lincoln Bormann, Judy Cumming, Eliza Habegger, Doug McCutchen, Tim Clark, and Diane Kinnaman.

Land Bank Staff Absent: Ruthie Dougherty, Nick Hershenow, and Kerry Hartjen.

Public in Attendance: Deborah Hopkins, Lance Evans, Dan Vekved, Mark Pierce, and Cinda Pierce.

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements	Actions and Next Steps
<u>Call to Order</u>	8:30 a.m. the meeting was called to order.	
<u>Adoption of Minutes</u>	The September 20, 2010 minutes were reviewed. There were corrections.	Jim Skoog moved to accept the September 20, 2010 minutes. Nancy Greene seconded. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.
<u>Chair's Report</u> <u>Commission Vacancy</u>	Amanda introduced Lance Evans of Orcas who applied for District 2 commissioner, recently vacated by Mary Blackstone. Lance currently is the Director of the Orcas Chamber of Commerce and has been involved in community service on Orcas for the past fifteen years.	

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<u>Land Trust Alliance (LTA) Conference Recap</u>	Doug Strandberg gave an overview of his LTA experiences in Hartford, CT and also provided and outline of seminars attended.	
<u>Farrington Foundation Award</u>	Amanda reported that the San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT) and the San Juan County Land Bank (SJCLB) will both receive the award from the Farrington Foundation. The Foundation completed an oral history entitled "To Save a Mountain" recounting the preservation of Turtleback Mountain on Orcas Island. The history can be accessed at the Foundation website: http://public.friendsoffarrington.org/	
<u>Beaverton Marsh Preserve Public Walk</u>	Amanda invited those present to accompany commissioners and staff on a walk following the commission meeting. Eliza Habegger will give an interpretive talk on recent restoration efforts at the Beaverton Marsh Preserve, Roche Harbor Road.	Depart the Mullis Center parking area at 12:30 pm following the commission meeting.
<u>Land Bank Volunteer Recognition</u>	Amanda reported on the third-quarter tally of volunteer hours and thanked everyone for their astounding 1880 hours dedicated so far in 2010. This amounts to the equivalent of a full-time paid employee. With one quarter to go in 2010, volunteers hours will surpass 2009 figures.	
<u>Finance Report</u>	<p>Amanda reported the Land Bank's Finance Committee met to discuss Pete Rose, San Juan County Administrator's proposal for the Land Bank Commission to approve a loan to San Juan County's Solid Waste Funds.</p> <p>San Juan County Administrator and Auditor have withdrawn the request to use Land Bank Stewardship funds.</p> <p>Land Bank Finance Committee consensus: Inter fund loan not recommended for approval unless Land Bank Finance Committee criteria is met. There was discussion.</p> <p>Judy Cumming reviewed the September 30, 2010 Conservation Area Fund and Stewardship & Management Fund financial statements. Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) collections for August were \$155,569. There</p>	<p>Lincoln will discuss the Land Bank Finance Committee's consensus with the County Administrator.</p> <p>Jim Skoog moved to accept the September 30, 2010 financial statements.</p> <p>Nancy Greene seconded.</p> <p>There was no discussion.</p> <p>Financials were approved.</p>

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	was discussion.	
<p><u>Public Comments</u> <u>Debra Hopkins, San Juan Scenic Byways</u></p>	<p>Debra gave an overview of the Corridor Scenic Byway Plan and requested the Land Bank provide input on map listings of SJCLB properties. There was discussion on active vs. passive promotion and signage.</p> <p>Commission consensus: Judy will coordinate discussion and provide staff recommendation for the Land Bank Commission to vote at November 19th commission meeting.</p>	<p>Commissioners will vote on map listings at November 19th Land Bank Commission meeting.</p>
<p><u>Director's Report</u> <u>Land Trust Alliance Conference Oct. 2-5, Hartford, CT</u></p>	<p>Lincoln gave an overview of the Land Trust Alliance conference he attended with Doug Strandberg and outlined the many non-profit and federal funding resources available which the Land Bank currently utilizes.</p> <p>Lincoln noted an effort in Vermont to retain public funds for conservation including a short video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmku3zkVOkc</p> <p>Amanda raised the idea of using the “conservation can’t wait” theme for the 2010 Annual Report. There was discussion.</p>	
<p><u>Proposed 2011 Expenditure and Acquisition Plan</u></p>	<p>Lincoln will present the Proposed 2011 Expenditure and Acquisition Plan for County Council approval on October 26th. Discussion on Buffum presentation to County Council and the Council’s “three-touch process”.</p> <p>Commission consensus: Lincoln will work with Prosecuting Attorney Randy Gaylord on revising county ordinances to clarify the acquisition approval process. More discussion.</p>	<p>Lincoln will continue moving forward.</p>
<p><u>Commission Appointment Process</u></p>	<p>Lincoln reported he is working through a range of options to recommend to the County Council for restructuring the appointment process. Nancy Greene suggested this be an Annual Retreat topic at the November 19th meeting and to develop a policy.</p>	<p>Policy for commission appointment process to be discussed at November 19th Land Bank Commission Annual Retreat.</p>
<p><u>Lopez / Odlin South</u></p>	<p>County Council to sign off on new letter of intent for the project. There was discussion.</p>	<p>Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.</p>

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<u>Lopez / Buffum Conservation Easement (CE)</u>	Buffum appraisal currently in process.	Lincoln will continue moving forward.
<u>Trails / Recreational License Agreements Lopez Island Community Trails Network</u>	Three agreements have been received from the Lopez Island Community Trails Network. Next steps: Prosecuting Attorney's office to approve agreements; property owners and County Administrator will sign contracts, then County Council approves.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>San Juan / Mitchell Hill</u>	The transaction closed. Lincoln outlined how the Land Bank played a key role in facilitating the Mitchell Hill transaction. He noted that without the outpouring of public support for protecting the property, the project would not have received federal funding. Boundary dispute resolved and fencing constructed.	San Juan Island Historical Park will assume management of the property.
<u>SJ / Taylor CE</u>	Proceeding – Easement is in good shape, appraisal is complete, and grant funding has been extended until the end of the year. There was discussion.	Lincoln will continue moving forward with this project.
<u>SJ / Smith/Weil Trail Easement</u>	The easement was finalized and will be brought to the County Council for acceptance of the deed. Tom Cowan inquired about costs associated with donated trail easements. There was discussion.	Lincoln will continue moving forward.
<u>Break</u>	10:05 a.m. – ten minute break.	
<u>Stewardship Report</u> <u>Draft Lopez Hill Management Plan</u>	Tim Clark reviewed the preserve's management plan process. Public meetings are the next step. There was discussion. Commission consensus: Tim will craft a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Friends of Lopez Hill outlining management and use of the preserve. Interim hunting approved in draft plan.	Public meeting scheduled for Draft Lopez Hill Management Plan on November 10 th . Nancy Greene moved to approve the Draft Lopez Hill Management Plan. Jim Skoog seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
<u>King Sisters Trail Celebration</u>	Doug McCutchen invited everyone to the trail celebration scheduled for October 23 rd at the King Sisters Preserve. Honoring the King family and volunteers who built the trail and pump house will take place prior to pumpkin carving and a trail walk.	
<u>Beaverton Marsh Restoration</u>	Eliza reported on the Beaverton Valley Marsh Restoration project currently underway. Volunteer work parties took place in the spring of 2010 and are scheduled for Fall 2010 and	

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	Winter 2011. Interpretive talk and work parties take place 11/23 and 12/1.	
<u>Meeting Adjourned</u>	10:55 am - meeting adjourned.	Jim Skoog moved to close the meeting. Tom Cowan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
NEXT MEETING	November 19 th , 2010 - San Juan Room, Friday Harbor House 123 West Street, Friday Harbor, San Juan Island.	