

VISITOR READINESS TASKFORCE MINUTES

September 8, 2008, 10am

1. Meeting called to order by Bill McDonald, City Administrator. Bill will chair the Committee to the end of the year then rotate out. The Visitor Readiness Taskforce Committee is a standing committee established by the Mayor.
2. Budget: The Lodging Tax Committee will convene in October so the VRT should be developing next year's budget. The VRT needs to report to the Council on our products/events. The VRT will develop a budget to go to Lodging Tax Committee then City Council.
2. Updates from Committees
 - a. Cultural/Heritage: Mockup on Historic Town map passed out for review and comments due back by Sep 22d. A master map showing the three trails with individual interpretative maps was distributed. Next map is Hudson Bay followed by Pre-European. Will need input from Nisqually Tribe on Pre-European. (Note: Lee McDonald and Joh Jones met with Cynthia Iyall after meeting and discussed Nisqually Tribal participation and help with trail maps). Tribal participation is very important to make sure we have correct information and support.
 - b. Business Relations. The committee will get local bids and request donations for Kiosks at trailheads. City Administrator advised Helix Design is producing signage at City Hall and volunteered technical support for historical markers.
 - c. Marketing/Promotion: Produced a promo stuffer for Operation We Love our Military. Applied for a \$5,000 state website grant with matching City funds. Grant results in November. VRT will go forward on a website. VRT will put written context in the Military Resource Guide at no cost to the City. Map cost of \$2,497 was too expensive this year and suggested perhaps the DBA is willing to sponsor and have their businesses located on the ad. Mike Jones will work with DBA.
 - d. Sequalitchew Creek Trail. The City is acquiring property on south side. Glacier Northwest has the north side and trail is on the north side. Hosted walks are being provided by Glacier every Wednesday through October at 5pm.
3. Companion Events for 2009 and 2010. The Home Course is the assisting course for the US Amateur in 2010, so companion events are being developed for the 4 days of play at The Home Course. Saturday is Golf Swap, Sunday is Heritage/Cultural day sponsored by Historical Society and DuPont Museum, and Monday and Tuesday would be available to the DBA to sponsor events.
4. Mr. Marios Zigomalas, President, International Soccer Academy, made a presentation on the establishment of a DuPont Soccer Association. International students and coaches would be attending as well as Americans. The estimated income would be in the neighborhood of \$3.5M. The City Events Coordinator, Public Works Director, Parks Agency, and DBA will work this with Mr. Zigomalas.
5. Cynthia Iyall, Tribal Chair, Nisqually Tribe, provided us with information on events and projects the Tribe is current involved in. The Tribe is working with the State on Mashel State Park on the Nisqually River. The Tribe has staff and caretaker at the Braget Farm. The Tribal Cultural Committee maintains the farm and wants to continue making it a working farm. The Farm will have youth activities. The Farm is closed during the time of the canoe journey. The Nisqually Tribe is bidding to co-host the 2011 or 2012 Canoe Journey.