

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL
Meeting #92, November 14, 2019, Fautleroy Church

ATTENDEES

Watershed volunteers: Judy Pickens, Dennis Hinton, Peggy Cummings, Steev Ward, Mike Arizona, Pete Draughon

Fautleroy Church: Phil Sweetland

Seattle Parks: Carol Baker and Jacobo Jimenez

1. Introductions

2. Minutes

Approved as distributed.

3. Financial reports

Dennis reported that we have \$822.35 in our checking account. Judy reported that our stewardship fund has a balance of \$11,052.37 after a payment of \$622.63 to Garden Cycles for the emergency clearing of the mouth of the creek and EarthCorps' 15% administrative fee.

4. Scribe duty

Judy noted, that with Peggy's move to Burien, she plans to continue being involved with Fautleroy Park and the watershed council but her schedule will vary and we need to find someone to take minutes, starting in January.

5. Seattle Parks

Carol reported the following:

- After prior reductions in maintenance budgets, new staff people are now being hired as land-banked properties are being developed.
- Regarding the Cambridge Street entrance to Fautleroy Park, Seattle Parks would like to save the trail and connection to the neighborhood and Jacobo is now assigned to work on doing so. Improvements made in 2005 were wiped out by erosion a year later; a 20-year fix is needed, including repairing and rebuilding steps and bridging the wetland. The work will likely need the support of adult volunteers.

Action item: Carol and Jacobo agreed to find a solution, including reaching out to staff at Seattle Public Utilities and the Seattle Department of Transportation.

6. Stewardship/habitat

Pipe at salmon release site: Judy forwarded information to Carol from hydrologist Steve Winter that the old partially submerged clay pipe in the channel is no longer blocked. Water is flowing into the hole, depriving the release site of water and diverting much of the natural flow under the bridge.

Action item: Carol will ask Seattle Parks' engineer to check it out and propose a permanent fix.

Forest stewards: Peggy and Mike reported the following:

- The lower creek restoration area is looking good, with continuing growth of new plants throughout. We should have a good survival rate this winter.
- In September, Peggy noted a lot of invasive growth in the park area of the Kilbourne ravine (along the sidewalk at the top of the steep slope). She informed Carol and a crew was out within a couple of days for general maintenance and invasive removal.

Culvert replacement:: Judy reported that the culvert-replacement team from Seattle Public Utilities had an origami fish activity at the Fautleroy Fall festival, which drew more than 90 kids and some adult

interactions about the project. The city needs funding to continue design work, with an eye toward replacing the 45th Ave. SW culvert first. The state's barrier-removal board has prioritized its grant money for areas other than King County but the team is strategizing how to apply anyway.

7. Outreach

Silver Anniversary: Judy and Dennis reported that they announced a "Silver Anniversary" focus at the Oct. 20 drumming, marking 25 years since the first coho in modern history spawned in the creek. The intention is to emphasize this focus over the next 12 months. Thirty people attended the drumming at creek level (Pickens/Sweetland parking area). Judy and Dennis staffed a table at the fall festival on Oct. 27, collecting signatures on an anniversary poster (now hanging at the fish-ladder viewpoint), talking salmon, and dispensing about 100 anniversary stickers.

Open creek/watch: Dennis reported that he and Pete talked with 67 visitors of all ages during an Oct. 26 open creek in the spawning reach. They included several families associated with Arbor Heights Elementary. At other times during the salmon watch, volunteers talked with 31 visitors and Dennis hosted 27 students from Taproot School.

In the media: Dennis said that the *West Seattle Blog* gave great coverage to the drumming (including the Silver Anniversary) and to the open creek. Its coverage of the fall festival also noted the first and the last fish of the season, with a photo of action at our information table. Also, *Neighbors*, the community newsletter, had a front-page article about spawning season, especially the effort to give spawners access from the beach..

Seattle Creek People: Judy noted that our presentation last year to a committee of the City Council led to the first gathering in many years of creek advocates from throughout the city. Now the Thornton Creek Alliance has taken the lead in scheduling another gathering (December/January) to re-establish communication among watersheds.

8. Project Activity

Salmon watch/spawner access: Dennis reported that, between Oct. 20 and 27, watchers documented 19 coho in the spawning reach, with more sighted in the cove but not in the creek. One site will be under surveillance this winter to document any home hatch.

Creek neighbor Mike Dey sounded the alarm about a thicket of vegetation along the reach to the beach that appeared to be blocking spawner access. He alerted Larry Fisher, area habitat biologist with State Fish and Wildlife, who came out the next day and affirmed that blockage, plus noted a few drift logs on the beach that were also impeding access. Neighbor Chuck Sawyer immediately adjusted those logs on his beach and Larry contacted Elizabeth Butler about the vegetation on her property. She gave the watershed council permission to clear a path through it for spawners. Judy contacted Steve Richmond with GardenCycles, who agreed to put other work aside to address the blockage as soon as permission was in hand. He and Joey Baumgardner were out the following day to spend 4 hours clearing reed canary grass and watercress; volunteers helped deal with debris. Knowing the right people to call on, securing their expert and enthusiastic responses, and having our stewardship fund to cover the cost saved the day.

Kilbourne ravine: Judy reported that our King Conservation District grant will expire Dec. 31. The final bill from EarthCorps will leave about \$50 on the table. From then on, we will need to tap our stewardship fund to pay for annual maintenance to keep the lid on invasives that try to re-establish.

Pocket garden: Peggy reported that she has researched appropriate native plants and will be buying them from Burien Botanics. Project partners Taproot School and the Fauntleroy Schoolhouse are poised to prepare and plant the site shortly after school resumes in January. Our grant from the West Seattle Garden Tour is covering expenses, including refacing of the project sign to identify plants in the garden and encourage their use in home landscapes.

County grant: Judy has received no reply from County Councilman Joe McDermott's office about the water-quality grants his office allocates. Our proposal is to address instream needs in the lower creek associated with increased flows.

Bomkamp memorial copse: Peggy has reached out to Steve's widow, Karen Farnsworth, about a special tree planting and has asked fellow forest steward Steve Hodson to connect with her to ascertain her interest in our going forward with the project.

9. Education

Macroinvertebrate study: On Oct. 22, sixth graders from Our Lady of Guadalupe School did the annual sampling for macroinvertebrates in the upper and lower creek. Phil, Pete, and Steve Damm, a habitat ecologist with Seattle Public Utilities, attended the students' report two weeks later. Though the number of aquatic insect larva was down from last year, the sampling and report were notably improved. The students will be back in March for the annual stonefly exoskeleton count in the spawning reach. Dennis noted that exoskeletons were already evident when smolt traps went in March 15, suggesting that trapping may need to start sooner and that the count should be about the third week in March.

Dissections/Salmon in the Schools: Steev will be scheduling six dissections at four schools. Phil and Judy got seven male coho carcasses from the Soos Creek Hatchery - one extra just in case. Jack Miller at Husky Deli generously provided freezer space. Phil, Judy, and Jack Lawless will be delivering salmon eggs to our schools in early January, this year including Roxhill Elementary.

Next meeting: Thursday, **Jan. 9**, 7pm @ Fautleroy Church

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL
Meeting #91, September 12, 2019, Fautleroy Church

ATTENDEES

Watershed volunteers: Judy Pickens, Dennis Hinton, Peggy Cummings, Steev Ward, Mike Arizona.

Fautleroy Church: Phil Sweetland

Seattle Parks: Carol Baker

1. Introductions

2. Minutes

Approved as distributed.

3. Financial reports

Dennis reported that we have \$885.45 in our checking account. Judy reported that we have \$19,675.00 in our stewardship fund, including the \$4,000 from West Seattle Garden Tour.

4. Outreach

In the media: Dennis reported that, on July 4, KING-TV re-aired segments of its earlier series on the Orcas, including the segment on Fautleroy Creek. The Fautleroy *Neighbors* newsletter had an article about the number of smolts.

Garden tour table: Judy reported that our information table at the Colman estate during the sold-out tour was well worthwhile. More than 1,000 people came through the garden and just over 100 stopped for substantive conversations about the creek and restoration projects. Even those who didn't stop smiled! Judy, Phil, Peggy, Chris, and Dennis took turns staffing the table.

Drumming/silver anniversary: Judy reported that the annual drumming to call in spawners will be Oct. 20. The plan is to consult with Tracy Record (West Seattle Blog) for advice about how to make the most of this "silver anniversary" of spawning in the creek ("Harry and Louise" were the first, in 1994.) The drumming will be in the Pickens/Sweetland parking area to be nearby to shelter in the event of rain and also nearby to the creek if people want to go down for a look. Jamie Shilling will again lead the drumming and singing.

Fall festival: Judy reported that the Fautleroy Fall Festival will be Oct. 27. Cathy and Ellie Follis are officially taking over the decorating of up to 200 salmon hats.

5. Stewardship/habitat

Upper-creek look-see: Dennis reported that he and Pete documented only four smolts coming out of the upper creek this spring. Environmental analysts Josh Meidav and Steve Damm with Seattle Public Utilities joined them to walk the main tributary in Fautleroy Park to check for blockages, finding a few logs that could impede passage. Josh and Steve found no significant instream vegetation that might be contributing and recommended not doing anything until new culverts are in years from now.

We discussed informal proposals: notching the logs to improve flow, asking Seattle Parks to clear vegetation, forming work group to more closely assess conditions. Josh and Steve noted that they witnessed off-leash dogs in the creek and on trails, which could be a factor as dogs can kill a lot of juvenile fish. Would fencing the creek be possible/worthwhile? Would more good-dog signage help, perhaps made by Taproot students for placement near the release bridge? We reached no conclusions.

Forest steward report: -Peggy reported the following:

- The lower creek revegetation project is looking very good, with a high survival to date in the open-space parcel next to the creek.

- Fell wood from recent storms damaged the boardwalk to the platform east of the big bridge and nicked the bridge itself. Heavy rain sent runoff in the trail west of the bridge, washing soil and debris into the creek. This is happening more often and may require action, such as water berms on the trail.
- Mike will become a forest steward of record for this watershed as Peggy is moving to Burien soon. She expects to remain active in Fauntleroy Park and the council and will continue with Cambridge Street planning and installation of the native-plant demonstration garden funded by the garden tour.

Cambridge project: Mike distributed a thorough report on trail conditions at the Cambridge Street entrance to Fauntleroy Park, including photos and recommendations. In discussion, issues of public safety and liability was raised; the trail is unsafe and the potential for injury is considerable. He recommended

- installing permanent fencing on SW Cambridge to prevent access to the trail,
- leaving existing steps in place as a berm for water runoff,
- allowing forest stewards to plan a work party to plant native plants along the entrance and the trail to help return the area to nature,
- providing native plants for fall 2019 planting.

Carol said that Mike's detailed proposal raised concerns within the department. The city has a priority on opening pedestrian corridors that connect neighborhoods and access to transportation options; closing the entrance could be seen as a counter move. The Seattle Department of Transportation and Seattle Public Utilities will need to engage on this one and Jacobo Jimenez has pledged to represent the trails section of Seattle Parks on the review.

Action item: Mike will forward his full proposal to Carol to aid the city's review.

Culvert replacement: Phil had little to report other than that a new round of public outreach is to happen this fall.

Orca update: In Kersti's absence, Peggy reported three more Orca deaths, two being undernourished females, which depleted the breeding potential of J pod. The third was a healthy adult male from K pod that possibly died from blunt-force trauma. One calf was born this year to J pod and another to L pod; they still appear healthy. The new total is 73 southern resident Orcas. They did not return to their normal feeding grounds all summer but recent sightings have been reported.

6. Project activity

Kingbourne ravine: Judy reported that the six-year King Conservation District grant ends on Dec. 31 after a crew does more planting and invasive monitoring. Our stewardship fund will pay for crew time for future maintenance.

Native-plant demonstration garden: Peggy said she will research appropriate plants for the space and plan on installation in November/December, involving Taproot students and the schoolhouse property manager.

County grant: Judy reported submitting our proposal for work in the lower creek to Joe McDermott's office, which has not yet set a deadline for making decisions.

7. Education

Steev is again planning to do classroom dissections using carcasses from the Soos Creek Hatchery. With Peggy planning to move, we will lose freezer space.

Action item: Phil will work on securing new freezer space.

8. Good of the order/upcoming events

- 2nd Time Sale **Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 14-15**, Fauntleroy Church
- Erich Hoyt whale talk/book signing **Thursday Sept. 19**, Hall at Fauntleroy
- Recycle Roundup **Sunday Sept. 22, 9am-3pm** Church parking lot
- Salmon Drumming **Sunday Oct. 20, 2-5 pm**, creek level @Pickens/Sweetland
- Fauntleroy Fall Festival **Sunday Oct. 27 2-5 pm**, in the triangle

Next Meeting: Thursday, **Nov. 14.** 7pm @ Fauntleroy Church

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL

Meeting #90, May 9, 2019, Fauntleroy Church

ATTENDEES

Watershed volunteers: Judy Pickens, Dennis Hinton, Peggy Cummings, Pete Draughon, Steev Ward, Mike Arizona

Fauntleroy Church: Phil Sweetland

Seattle Parks: Carol Baker

1. Introductions

2. Minutes

Approved as distributed.

3. Treasurer's report

Dennis reported that we have \$909.33 in our checking account. Judy reported that the stewardship fund has reached \$10,675, including a Boeing match, \$100 from Craig Pederson, and \$100 in memory of Steve Bomkamp.

4. Seattle Parks

Carol reported that Phil Renfrow is retiring after 30 years with Seattle Parks.

5. Outreach

In the media: Dennis reported that the *West Seattle Blog* had an April 30 story about the first salmon release. King 5's series on orcas by Alison Morrow will include a segment about Fauntleroy Creek featuring comments by Judy and Dennis. Judy said she will pitch two more school releases to the *Blog*: Our Lady of Guadalupe students talking with EarthCorps trainees about the Kilbourne project and Sanislo as the last release.

Website: On behalf of webmaster Chris Nack (out of town), Judy reported that Chris frustrated with the website platform and will be exploring better, more efficient hosts; Square Space is a possibility. She will be able to work on this in the fall and knows that Dwight Gault has offered assistance.

Information tables: Judy noted that we are obliged by our grant to have an information table at the June 23 West Seattle garden tour, she thinks at the nearby Colman estate. She plans to have a poster, the fund prospectus, a creek map, and brochures on hand. Peggy, Dennis, Chris, and Phil have volunteered to help. She also noted that we've been invited to have a table at Thornton Creek's "Influence of the Confluence" event on June 9; she and Phil plan to attend with a modest display.

6. Stewardship/habitat

Cambridge project: Mike reported that he's not yet met with Steve Winter about hydrology of the site. With long-time concerns about safety issues, the entrance's remote location, and sparse usage, he suggested that Parks consider closing this entrance to Fauntleroy Park and developing the lower segment of trail as part of the existing wetland, with access from the main trail.

Decision: We will discuss again and reach a decision at our September meeting.

Forest steward report: Peggy reported the following:

- The park looks good, with lush spring growth. The newly planted reforestation project is growing nicely; plants are leafing out, as are the twig stakes.
- Prior to the first salmon release, she and her husband cleared the arterial trail from the Barton Street entrance to the release bridge and also the nearby board walks, trimming overhanging branches and pulling some weeds.

County grant: Judy reported that the county's RFP for WaterWorks grants is to come out by the end of May. Now the website includes a link to a form for grants awarded by individual council members. She plans to submit a letter of intent to WaterWorks for the lower-creek project, then (assuming it will be declined) submit to Joe Mc Dermott. Our proposal will include tapping into our stewardship fund for the requested match.

Orca legislation: Peggy reported on behalf of Kersti Muul that a package of five bills, called the orca legislation, was passed and signed on May 8 by the governor. Although not providing as much protection for the orcas as many advocates wanted, the legislation overall was a success for the environment. It will (1) decrease vessel traffic and noise, (2) increase oil transportation safety in Rosario Strait, (3) increase food sources and protect shorelines, (4) decrease toxins and pollution in Salish Sea waters, and (5) enforce guidelines for whale watching, including boater safety education. New watching guidelines will go into effect in 2020.

Outmigration: Dennis reported that he and Pete had seen no smolts for two weeks, which may signal the end. They have documented 22 so far, compared with 44 last year. Only four have come through the upper creek trap, compared with 18 in the lower. A fallen tree may be blocking flow in below the release bridge and lack of spring rains may have contributed. Discussion ensued about how to proceed.

Action item: Judy will consult with culvert-replacement lead Betsy Lyons at Seattle Public Utilities about getting a site visit from appropriate specialists.

Ferry terminal: Judy reported being visited by the five-person environmental-compliance team working on State Ferries' project to replace the outdated ferry terminal (part of its 20-year plan). She was impressed with their savvy about implications related to the creek and nearshore (spawners, eel grass, prey fish, etc.). The project may include lengthening the dock to provide more holding area for vehicles. They said that, as a matter of course, they will include relocating the facility as an option.

7. Education

Dissections: Steev reported that he did a total of eight spawner dissections in classrooms winter to spring. He said the kids were very interested and seemed to enjoy the experience. Three fish remain in Peggy's freezer.

Exoskeleton count: Judy reported that sixth graders from Our Lady of Guadalupe conducted the annual count of stonefly exoskeletons on March 26 in lower creek with teacher Sarah Nadalin. Scientist Jonathan Frodge from Seattle Public Utilities kindly came to encourage the students.

Salmon releases: Dennis reported that our team has led seven releases to date involving about 200 kids bring 500 coho fry. City Councilwoman Lisa Herbold and County Councilman Joe McDermott are scheduled to come and Nancy Hernandez with Salmon in the Schools will come to inspire the mostly Hispanic students from Highland Park. Jack Lawless will have fish left over, so we will be a community release on June 8 to close the season.

8. Good of the Order/upcoming events

- Community salmon release June 8, 1-3 pm at the release bridge
- Influence of the Confluence Sunday **June 9, 2-6 pm** on Thornton Creek
- West Seattle Garden Tour Sunday **June 23, 9 am -5 pm**

Next Meeting: Thursday **Sept 12** 7pm @ Fauntleroy Church

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL

Meeting #89, March 14, 2019, Fautleroy Church

ATTENDEES

Watershed volunteers: Judy Pickens, Dennis Hinton, Peggy Cummings, Chris Nack, Pete Draughon, Kersti Muul, Steev Ward

Fautleroy Church: Phil Sweetland

Seattle Parks: Carol Baker

1. Introductions

2. Minutes

Approved as distributed.

3. Treasurer's report

Dennis reported that we have \$930.63 in our account. The stewardship fund has reached just under \$10,000.

4. Seattle Parks - Carol reported, no major issues. Parks sent a dead sea lion on the beach to a rendering plant; cause of death not noted. River otter have been sighted along Harbor Avenue and in Lincoln Park.

Action item: Carol will see that muddy areas in the trail near the big bridge in Fautleroy Park will be address before salmon releases start the April 30.

5. Outreach

In the media: Dennis reported that the *West Seattle Blog* posted a story with photos of creosote log removal at the mouth of the creek and on the beach at Lincoln Park.

Fautleroy Food Fest: Judy noted that the annual food fest will be Tuesday, March 19. She and Peggy will have a table with a photo poster, the latest annual report, and the stewardship fund prospectus.

Kiwanis presentation: On March 6 Judy gave a PowerPoint presentation on the creek and the stewardship fund to about 12 members of the West Seattle Kiwanis Club, at Jack Lawless' invitation. Dennis and Peggy also attended and helped field questions.

Action item: Judy will be looking for a similar opportunity to present to the Rotary Club.

Influence of the Confluence: Bringing Watersheds Together: Judy reported that the Thornton Creek Alliance is organizing a second half day of tours and information tables on June 9 at Meadowbrook Pond. We have been invited to have a table. This event was well attended last time.

Action item: Judy will find out more and likely commit to our being represented.

6. Stewardship/Habitat

Open-space project/forest steward report: Peggy reported the following:

- During winter storms several small trees and larger branches came down across trails in the park, near the SW 97th entrance and at the SW Barton entrance. All were cleared quickly.
- The volunteer planting party for the open-space restoration project along the lower creek at the fish ladder was rescheduled twice. In January a large alder tree came down across the creek and onto Judy and Phil's property. Work could not be done until it was removed. The Parks crew that removed the tree also removed the large laurel trees in the volunteer planting area and planted the steep slope above. The

Feb. 16 was a on-go because of snow; Pete, Mike, and Peggy did meet that day to plan the work and set out plants for a successful work party on March 2. Mike gave instructions and planting demonstrations and 12 volunteers plus two children planted 200 trees, shrubs, and groundcovers in 3 1/2 hours.

Grant activity/contract authorization: Judy reported an opportunity to apply for another small Rose Foundation grant but did not suggest a specific project. We are to receive \$4,000 from the West Seattle Garden Tour and one of the requirements is that we have project information at one of the gardens on the June 23 tour. She asked for authorization to sign the grant contract.

Decision: The council authorized Judy to sign the contract for the West Seattle Garden Tour grant.

Orca legislation: Kersti reported that recommendations of the Orca task force went to the state house and senate for legislative action. The whale-watching industry has a hired lobbyist and some of the recommendations were eliminated or amended. Senate and house bills have to be reconciled and voted on again so some of the provisions may yet be strengthened. Her take is that the Orcas will get something but not enough.

Creosote log removal: Judy reported that the tonnage collected from Fauntleroy Cove beaches was much more than the State Department of Natural Resources had anticipated. The plan is to come back every 2 - 5 years as budget allows.

Ferry terminal: Judy also reported that Washington State Ferries has started planning for a rebuild of the Fauntleroy terminal. She will be meeting with a team interested in learning more about the creek as a significant environmental factor in their planning.

Outgoing migration study: Dennis reported that the plan is to have both smolt traps in place by March 15, one at Fenton Glen in the upper creek and one just above the fish ladder in the lower creek. He also reported seeing a few home-hatch fry near the ladder from last fall's spawning.

Action item: Kersti and Phil will install the wildlife camera by the lower trap and she will monitor.

7. Education

Salmon in the Schools: Phil reported that, to date, tanks and fish in our schools are doing okay. A power outage resulting in Highland Park's loosing more of their fish; the teacher was out that day and no one else knew what to do. Phil has been working with her to stabilize tank chemistry and recruit a volunteer or colleague to help. He has offered some of Jack's fry as replacements.

Release scheduling: Judy opened the calendar to the schools in February and to preschools in early March and is expecting 19 releases, starting on April 30. An EarthCorps crew will be working in Kilbourne on a day when students will be releasing and will meet when them. Boren STEM may schedule a field trip to the park for habitat study before their release.

Dissections: Steev reported that he's done dissections at Boren STEM and Westside and is adding more to his schedule.

Exoskeleton count: Judy noted that sixth graders from Our Lady of Guadalupe School will be coming later this month for the annual count of stonefly exoskeletons in the lower creek.

8. Good of the order/upcoming events

Fauntleroy Food Fest Tuesday, **March 19, 6 pm**, Hall @ Fauntleroy
SPU's Culverts Replacement Project open house Wednesday, **March 20, 5-7 pm**, Hall @ Fauntleroy.
Recycle Roundup Sunday, **April 28, 9am-3pm**, church parking lot

Next Meeting: Thursday **May 9**, 7pm @ Fauntleroy Church

FAUNTLEROY WATERSHED COUNCIL

Meeting #88, January 10, 2019, Fautleroy Church

ATTENDEES

Watershed volunteers: Judy Pickens, Dennis Hinton, Peggy Cummings, Chris Nack, Pete Draughon, Mike Arizona

Fautleroy Church: Phil Sweetland

Seattle Parks: Carol Baker

1. Introductions

We welcomed Mike Arizona as a new member of the council.

2. Minutes

Approved as distributed.

3. Treasurer's report

Dennis reported that we have \$920.63 in our account at Washington Federal. When the account fell below \$1,000, the bank began charging a fee; he was able to get that fee halved and Judy converted our account to no-minimum basic checking. The stewardship fund is just under \$10,000.

4. Outreach

In the media: Dennis reported that the *West Seattle Blog* ran a story on salmon-egg deliveries to the schools, featuring Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Website activity: Chris hit the high points of what Google Analytics revealed about website activity in 2018. Total page views were 2,368 compared to 2,531 the year before. The site had 1,002 distinct users compared to 968 in 2017; 92.2% were new and 44% were from the greater-Seattle area. Pages of highest interest were about Fautleroy Creek and Fautleroy Park, the stewardship fund, and the Kilbourne project. Nearly 65% of viewers came by referral from another site, most notably the *West Seattle Blog*.

Documentary: Phil reported that he's been working to get the 2000 documentary, "The Gift of the Salmon," on YouTube so we can have a link to it on our website. Dennis had the VHS tape converted because so much of what Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) captured then about our watershed is still current. Phil is awaiting permission from SPU as the copyright holder, then will modify as needed, post, and let Chris know so she can add the link.

5. Seattle Parks and Recreation

Carol announced the following:

- The department's 2019 budget has minimal changes from this year. Support for cleaning up homeless encampments has been assigned to a specific group, rather than being done by employees borrowed from Seattle Parks. Also, some vacant positions have been eliminated.
- The "Roxhill Park Champions" group formed in 2018 to steward the park alerted Seattle Parks that the bog there has dried up. The group got a grant from the Rose Foundation for a hydrology study to try to understand the situation and see if something can be done to restore the water.

6. Stewardship/Habitat

Cambridge entrance project: Mike reported that he has been in touch with local hydrologist Steve Winter for a weekend assessment of the drainage situation - a project the late Steve Bomkamp took on but was unable to complete. Once water flow off the street above is managed, Mike plans to rebuild the trail; it is

not heavily used but has been a safety concern for years. SPU will also be looking again at the drainage issue there.

Forest steward report: Peggy reported the following:

- In early November, 200 plants were delivered for the Fauntleroy Ravine Park/lower Fauntleroy restoration project being led by the Green Seattle Partnership. These deciduous trees, shrubs, ferns, and ground covers will be planted in the flat area along the south side of the creek, which is city-owned open space. Jan. 26 is the tentative date for the planting party. She noted that the laurel trees on the site have not died off after herbicide treatment and continue to shade the planting area, plus debris from the large alder tree that came down in the windstorm must be removed. She is working with Mike Arizona and with Eric Sterner from GSP and is recruiting volunteers locally and through the GSP website.
- She is continuing to talk with Karen Farnsworth and Steve Hodson to finalize a memorial planting in the park for Steve Bomkamp.
- Replacement mesh on boardwalks in Fauntleroy Park has been repaired. Parks responded quickly to trees downed near Barton and 97th entrances during the windstorm. The park is looking very lush with good stream flow.
- Peggy sent a letter of objection to the mountain-bike plan proposed for Cheasty Park and received a reply from Parks senior adviser Kathy Nyland, former director of Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods. Of the 245 comments received, 90% were supportive of the project. Opponents have appealed to the city's hearing examiner.

Kilbourne project: Judy reported that we have more funds than anticipated left from our King Conservation District grant for the final year of this project. She plans to strategize with EarthCorps about how best to spend it to the penny.

Stewardship fund: Judy reported that she and Phil will be meeting with EarthCorps' new development director, Justine Miley, on Jan. 11. We now have \$9,475 in our fund, including \$150 given during the December Alternative Giving Fair at Fauntleroy Church and an unsolicited \$200 check from the MMS Giving Foundation, which makes grants for environmental education. A decision on our grant proposal to the West Seattle Garden Tour should be forthcoming in February.

County grant: Judy is in communication with King County Councilman Joe McDermott's office about timing for the water-quality grants that office awards. She is expecting a deadline in March but it's uncertain at present. Looking toward proposing a project in the lower creek, Judy plans to talk with Betsy Lyons at SPU about how culvert work upstream might impact the channel due upstream of the fish ladder.

Ferry terminal replacement: Judy noted that replacing the Fauntleroy Ferry Terminal is in the state's long-range plan, with funding now before the state legislature. Replacement will be a contentious issue in the neighborhood, given the many traffic and environmental concerns at play. She noted that any extension of the dock apron to hold more cars would create additional shade over the water and, according to the ferry system's own study, negatively impact juvenile salmon there.

Smolt trapping: Dennis said Steev Ward plans to have the smolt traps in place in the upper and lower creek by March 15. Dennis and Pete are braced to monitor them.

TMDL: Judy said that SPU's Jonathan Frodge had asked her about E. coli-related stewardship activities, which we've had none of in recent years. He is looking into picking up monitoring for this fecal bacteria, which State Ecology did for the total maximum daily load study it initiated here several years ago.

7. Education

Salmon in the schools: Phil reported that he and Judy delivered coho eggs on Jan. 8 to elementary schools and Jack Lawless covered our preschools. Judy said she was impressed by the interest shown by students and teachers during their time at Louisa Boren STEM, an addition to the program this year. The Salmon in the Schools leadership team has asked that, at a minimum, all teachers have lessons in four categories: orienting, observing, sharing, and exploring.

Exoskeleton research: Judy said she will soon schedule the sixth graders at Our Lady of Guadalupe for the annual count of stonefly exoskeletons near the fish ladder, to be done late March.

8. Upcoming events/good of the order

The Fauntleroy Food Fest will be **Tuesday, March 19, 6 pm**, in The Hall @ Fauntleroy.

Action item: Judy and Peggy will work on an information table to reach people about our stewardship fund.

Next Meeting: Thursday **March 14**, 7pm Fauntleroy Church