Fort Williams Advisory Commission Minutes – December 15, 2005

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Present: Charlie McCarthy (Chairman), Steve Parkhurst, Daniel Chase, Chuck

Wilson, John Snowden, and Ellen Nadeau (Secretary)

Guest: Joel Russ, President – Fort Williams Charitable Foundation

New FWAC Members: Maureen McCarthy and James Rowe

Absent: Tina Harnden

Meeting: Convened at 7:15 P.M. in the Public Work's Building.

Minutes: The revised Minutes of the October meeting were approved

November Minutes accepted as is.

Director's Report

Bob's presentation included the following:

- 1. The picnic shelter pavilion will be shingled in the spring of 2006.
- 2. The playground still needs 13 bricks to be engraved and installed by the Rand Company.
- 3. The tree work is ongoing.
- 4. The Traveling Vietnam Memorial request has been withdrawn.
- 5. He has not heard from Portland Symphony Orchestra requesting a reservation for the Fourth of July concert.
- 6. There is no resolution on the permanent marker solution.
- 7. Budget discussions begin soon and we should be thinking about our needs.
- 8. Suggested that our January agenda should include discussion of the following two items:
 - a) The number of benches (6 to 8) to be placed on the new cliff walk.
 - b) Reviewing the planting of trees and indigenous plants.

Joel Russ, President Fort Williams Charitable Foundation

In his role as President Joel said the goals of the FWCF would be to focus on the future. The easement issue is institutionally behind us and we should be exploring our common goals. He pointed out that there is a great deal of shared interest among the towns' people regarding the well being of the fort.

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He stated that the mission of the FWCF is to pursue various means of fundraising. This will include an annual appeal and they are exploring other possibilities such as special events, grants and bequests. The Foundation is interested in exploring project specific needs such as those outlined in the Master Plan Update of 2003. There is an idea that a major fundraising event could be wrapped around the awareness of the park. This could be in the form of a community picnic or block party. Funds collected would be used for on going improvements. It is the intention of the FWCF to establish a substantial and credible endowment.

Going forward they will supplement their board with skill sets that will enhance their position as it relates to fundraising, event planning and grant writing.

Joel expressed a desire to have closer communications and a better understanding between our organizations.

The discussion concluded with the thought that we consider having representation at each others meetings. It was also suggested that we send joint minutes and agenda between our groups.

Election of Officers

A motion was made and seconded to nominate Ellen Nadeau as Chairperson. The vote was unanimous. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Chuck Wilson as a Vice Chairperson. The vote was unanimous. A motion was made and seconded to nominate Dan Chase as Secretary. The vote was unanimous.

We expressed our appreciation to John Snowden and Charlie McCarthy for multiple years of service and the contributions they have made, especially in the past year which included several workshops and late meetings.

Next meeting: January 19, 2006, 7:15 P.M.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.