MINUTES PRESIDENT'S CABINET MEETING WITH BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR PORT OF BELLINGHAM PRESENTATION



Laidlaw Center Board Room Tuesday, August 19, 2008 10:30 a.m.

The presentation portion of the meeting of the President's Cabinet was opened at 10:34 a.m.. by President Hiyane-Brown. Those in attendance included Cabinet members Patricia Onion, Vice President for Educational Services; Ron Leatherbarrow, Vice President for Instruction; Linda Maier, Dean for Workforce Education; Jason Tetzloff, Dean for Instructional and Academic Support; Trustees Barbara Rofkar, Board Chair; Robert Fong; Steve Adelstein; and Chuck Robinson. Others present were; Wendy Bohlke, and Carena Higgens, Assistant Attorney Generals; and guests from the Port of Bellingham, Jim Darling, Bellingham Port Executive Director and Mike Stoner, Environmental Director; Buf Schoenfeld, Executive Assistant to the President of WWU; and Keri Parriera, Executive Assistant to the President of WCC.

The Port management team provided an overview of the Waterfront Futures Project which is cosponsored and funded by the City of Bellingham and the Port of Bellingham. They share the vision of the waterfront as a key community asset. The Waterfront Futures Group is taking the first steps in creating a blueprint for that vision to become a reality.

A history of the acquisition of the 137 acres of property from George Pacific was presented. They highlighted the partnerships being developed for the environmental cleanup of the waters and property, which will be aggressive and expensive due to rigorous state sentiment cleanup standards. GP retains the liability for any future discovery of toxins. Also discussed were the visions for mixed-use development plan with a blending of public and private use of the lands, and the availability of the opportunities that exist for partnerships as well as leases and purchases of property. Bellingham Technical College and Western Washington University have expressed interest in the locale.

Buf Schoenfeld from WWU spoke about the University's interest in this site, and indicated that a project team had been assembled to research opportunities for visibility in this area. Ms. Schoenfeld answered questions about Western's vision of future growth and pointed out that the change in administration calls for new rounds of discussions.

There being no items for action, the meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Date 9/08 9/29/08