

**September 13, 2005**

**Riverfront Board  
Minutes**

Members present: Green, St. Clair, Klein, and Martin  
Absent: Stacey, Wall, Darling  
Visitors: Peter Wilcox, Rivers West and Ed Zumwalt

**Biodiesel Ferries**

Peter Wilcox of Rivers West spoke to the group about an effort his group is undertaking to refurbish ferries, previously used at Crater Lake, and put them into use on the Willamette as recreational ferries. Following is a summary of Peter's project

- Owns 3 boats – William Atkins design mahogany ships
- Hold 49 passengers
- Would use biodiesel and electricity as fuel (biodeisel hybrids)
- Idea is to put them in the middle of Portland - Portland Visitors Alliance is their best ally
- 2-3 years before they would get going
- Need funding for further rehab of boats and docks
- Goal is to have cleanest, greenest ferry system in the world
- Go 8 knots/hour and are 39 feet long
- Not necessarily fast enough for commuting
- Not feasible for use to Milwaukie due to distance from Portland and low speeds of boats (should use "cats" for that...)
- Longest distance would be from Swan Island to Sellwood (15 minutes)
- They are handsome, historic and from Oregon
- Boats would be stored in a central area of Portland or one might be to the north and one to the south
- 2 new docks will be installed at south Waterfront
- The Ferry system will be a private/public non-profit

**Minutes**

Green asked for a motion to approve the minutes but since St. Clair had not been presents at the last meeting – he needed to abstain. The minutes were tabled for lack of quorum.

**Concept Plan Survey**

Herrigel showed the group the draft Concept Plan survey. Green noted that the print on the concepts was fairly small and might not be readable by some folks. He also suggested that the text point out somehow that the concept plans were for the area between the two creeks. Finally, it was suggested that the Comprehensive Plan be removed from the survey in order to make it less confusing.

**Clearwater**

Green described the County Commissioners meeting at which the Clearwater project was approved. He noted that the project was approved by a 2-1 vote and that an accompanying rate had also been approved 3-0.

Gary Klein invited anyone who wanted to tour the river with him on his boat on Thursday or Friday to let him know. He asked Herrigel to extend the invitation to others at the City.