

## **Western Crossing Meeting Minutes**

December 1, 2009

Port of Bellingham Offices

Attendance: Bruce Shepard, President, WWU  
Fred Seeger, Interim Exec. Director, Port of Bellingham  
Scott Walker, Port Commissioner  
Peggy Zoro, WWU, Board of Trustee  
Steve Swan, WWU, V.P. for University Relations  
Lisa Wochos, WWU, Asst. Attorney General

The meeting was called to order by President Bruce Shepard at 8:35 a.m. The board decided that Bruce Shepard would preside at this meeting.

Bruce welcomed everyone to the first meeting of Western Crossing, and extended a special welcome to John Stark, reporter for the Bellingham Herald.

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2009 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The proposed by-laws were discussed. The date for the annual meeting was discussed and selected. It will be held on the first Tuesday of May at 10:00 a.m. Other items in the by-laws were tabled until the next meeting.

Discussion was held concerning the addition of a fifth member to the committee with a final decision to defer remaining conversation until a closed session at the end of the regular meeting.

Steve Swan gave an update on WWU's program planning. Western remains committed to placing Huxley College of the Environment and the College of Business and Economics or some hybrid of the two at the waterfront. However, in looking at the economic climate right now, constructing new buildings of significant size is not realistic. WWU is studying the possibility of building a smaller facility that can be expanded when funds become available. Western is focusing on building a "community learning center" that meets the needs of the community and the campus, the latter with a focus on high tech delivery for undergraduate, graduate and extended education programs. The facility would also meet Western's needs for presentation space and provide a venue to host special programs and outreach events that showcase the expertise of students, faculty and staff.

The meeting adjourned into closed session at 9:15 a.m.

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