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# Minutes

## Washington State Committee on Geographic Names

October 24, 2014  
Natural Resources Building  
Olympia, Washington

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Bergvall - Chair  
Mary Schaff - State Librarian Representative  
Dean Foster - Citizen Member  
Putnam Barber - Citizen Member  
Dr. Grant Smith - Citizen Member

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

The Honorable Leonard Forsman - Tribal Representative  
Dr. Allyson Brooks - State Archaeology & Historic Preservation Representative

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Caleb Maki

### **AUDIENCE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Eva Miller - Criss Creek  
Terry Curtis - WA DNR Resource Mapping Section

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1 **CALL TO ORDER**

2 Chairman David Bergvall called the meeting to order at 2:31 PM. All of the Committee  
3 members and staff introduced themselves.  
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6 **SAFETY REVIEW**

7 Mr. Maki gave a safety overview and instructions on evacuating the building in case of an  
8 emergency.  
9

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11 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

12 Chairman David Bergvall called for approval of the minutes for the May 16, 2014 Committee on  
13 Geographic Names Meeting.  
14

15 **MOITION:** Dean Foster moved to approve the minutes.  
16

17 **SECOND:** Putnam Barber seconded the motion.  
18

19 **ACTION:** The motion was approved, with Dr. Grant Smith abstaining, as he was not present at  
20 the last Committee meeting.  
21

22  
23 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CRISS CREEK**

24 No one had signed up to give comment on this proposal.  
25

26 **CRISS CREEK: INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

27 After an overview by staff, Dean Foster asked the proponent if the nearby cleared areas that were  
28 present on the orthophoto map were gravel mines. The proponent confirmed that there are gravel  
29 mining operations in the area.  
30

31 Mary Schaff thanked the proponent for a detailed proposal and the amount of information  
32 concerning Arthur Criss that was submitted. Mrs. Schaff stated that she is concerned about local  
33 support for the proposed name, and would like to see comments of support submitted before the  
34 next Committee meeting. Dr. Grant Smith agreed with Mrs. Schaff that the Committee would  
35 like to see more evidence of local support for this proposal.  
36

37 The Committee suggested to the proponent that a good way to demonstrate local support for the  
38 proposal would be to contact nearby land owners and anyone who has knowledge of the feature,  
39 and have them submit their comments to the Committee.  
40

41 Dr. Grant Smith stated that he would like to see more evidence concerning the connection with  
42 the feature and Arthur Criss, the person being commemorated by the proposal. Dr. Smith asked  
43 the proponent to supply more information to address his concerns.  
44

45 Putnam Barber suggested to staff and to the proponent that the nearby Port Ludlow Golf Course  
46 should be contacted when seeking comments.

1 MOTION: Putnam Barber moved to approve Criss Creek for Final Consideration.

2

3 SECOND: Dean Foster seconded the motion.

4

5 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to approve Criss Creek for Final  
6 Consideration.

7

8

9 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR DWEA LAKE**

10 No one had signed up to give comment on this proposal.

11

12 **DWEA LAKE: INTITAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

13 After an overview by staff, Dr. Grant Smith stated he is concerned about the features small size  
14 and lack of local support for the proposal submitted by the proponent. Dr. Smith would like to  
15 see more local support before he feels comfortable approving the proposal.

16

17 Staff said that they would contact the proponent to express the Committee's concerns about local  
18 support.

19

20 MOTION: Putnam Barber moved to defer Dwea Lake for Initial Consideration until the next  
21 Committee meeting, to allow the proponent to submit evidence of local support.

22

23 SECOND: Dean Foster seconded the motion.

24

25 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to defer Dwea Lake for Initial Consideration  
26 until the next Committee meeting.

27

28

29 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR CONNER FALLS**

30 No one had signed up to give comment on this proposal.

31

32 **CONNER FALLS: FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

33 After an overview by staff, Dr. Grant Smith stated that he does not see much of a connection  
34 between Thomas Conner, the individual being commemorated by the proposal, and the feature.

35

36 Dean Foster said that the proponent was informed at the last Committee meeting that he should  
37 submit more evidence of local support and more evidence of Mr. Conner's connection to the  
38 feature.

39

40 Dean Foster asked staff to clarify the exact location of the feature, as Mr. Foster was concerned  
41 that the feature was within the Mount Baker Snoqualmie National Forest boundary. Staff stated  
42 that the feature was outside of the National Forest.

43

44 Mary Schaff stated that she is hesitant to name a feature located on an un-named creek, as she is  
45 concerned that the name "Conner" might be applied to the creek as time goes on.

46

1 MOTION: Dr. Grant Smith moved to deny the name Conner Falls.

2

3 SECOND: Dean Foster seconded the motion.

4

5 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to deny the proposed name Conner Falls.

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8 **BUSINESS ITEMS**

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10 **Meeting Start Time:**

11 The Committee members discussed moving the meeting start time to an earlier hour of the day.  
12 Some members have to travel to attend the meetings, and traffic can be heavy around the noon  
13 hour. Staff said that they would check with the Committee members to see what time would  
14 work best for everyone.

15

16 **Tribal Representative Committee Appointment:**

17 The Committee was informed by staff that Mr. Forsman's term on the Committee will expire at  
18 the end of October 2014.

19

20 Chairman David Bergvall informed the Committee that the Department of Natural Resources  
21 Tribal Liaison, Joenne McGerr, will begin the process of seeking nominations for the  
22 Committee's Tribal Representative from Washington State Tribal Governments.

23

24 The Commissioner of Public Lands, Peter Goldmark, will then appoint a Tribal Representative to  
25 the Committee on Geographic Names based on nominations submitted.

26

27

28 **ADJOURNMENT**

29 The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 PM.