

Save Our Trails!



Promoting trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all

Minutes

Save Our Trails Annual Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2011

Willow Glen Baptist Church

ADMINISTRATION

Attendance

Directors in Attendance

Joan Bohnett, Martin Delson, Rick Hernandez , Roland LeBrun , Taisia McMahon , Jack Nadeau, Bill Rankin, Richard Silva (making a quorum).

Directors Absent

Mary Ellen Petrich, Lars Thurfjell

Directors on Leave

Shirley Rogers

Members in Attendance

Carlos Babcock, Bruce Tichinin

Visitors in Attendance

Helen Chapman, President, Shasta Hanchett Park Neighborhood Association

David Dearborn, President, Willow Glen Neighborhood Association

Steve Kline, President; Burbank Del Monte Neighborhood Association

Frances Reyes, from Pierluigi Oliverio's office

Minutes Approved

The minutes of the meeting of August 8, 2011 were unanimously accepted.

Excused Absences

N/A

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report

- (a) San Jose City Council enthusiastically and unanimously approved the city's purchase of the Western extension of the Three Creeks Trail.

PROGRESS ON OPEN ACTION ITEMS

No.	Who	Action	Progress
1	Taisia	Extract the contact information from the gmail list and forward it to Mary Ellen	Completed. See below and see new action #26.
4	Bill R.	Send an email to the Board specifying details (size, color scheme, etc.) of the banner with	Reassigned to Bill; still open
5	Bill R.	Get three bids for the banner and present them to the Board.	Reassigned to Bill; still open
9	Joan	Initiate process of devising formal procedure for resignations.	Deferred during Joan's leave; to be completed by 11/8.
17	Martin	Draft the text of a resolution stating SOT's position on the preferred placement of the	Completed; see below
18	Taisia	Write to Yves to ask him what surface should be placed on ROW	Completed. Yves responded, "asphalt". See below
19	Taisia	Get a letter from GRPC that states that they will act as our financial agent in grant	Still open.
20	Bill	Contact the site manager of the clean-up crew to ask what they are planning for the surface.	Completed.
21	Mary Ellen	Speak with Jean of WGBC to cancel September meeting and to move the date of	Completed.
22	Bill	Speak to Rick H. about his progress on producing the banner	May be deleted – Bill will take over the project.
23	Martin	Send agenda of next meeting to all members.	Done; Martin will keep action active as a reminder.
24	Martin	Improve quality of map in brochure and print 100 copies	Completed; Martin gave brochures to Bill
25	Bill, Jack, Rick	Apply for a booth at Day on the Bay , prepare, set up, and staff a booth; September 17 th ,	Completed; see below.

Regarding Action #1:

Taisia said that she said that forwarded the list to Mary Ellen, but Mary Ellen said it was not in a format that could be used. Martin said he would reformat the list so entries could be placed on the Save Our Trails membership list. (Action #26)

Regarding Action #17:

Martin presented the text of a statement, quoting a portion of the California High Design Manual for bike paths, and stating, *“SAVE OUR TRAILS endorses these design criteria and advocates taking all appropriate measures to ensure that trails are separated from sidewalk facilities and to minimize situations where trails cross streets with motorized traffic.”*

Richard felt that it was inappropriate to focus exclusively on the design of bike paths. Taisia thought the proposed statement was too wordy and suggested the following as an alternative:

Wherever possible, SAVE OUR TRAILS supports off-street trails separate from sidewalks and roadways.

The suggested statement was adopted by a vote of 6-0-2.

Regarding Action #18:

When Tai reported that Yves Zsuttu said that the city planned to use asphalt as the surface of the Three Creeks Trail, Rick objected to that material, saying he thought that crushed gravel and dirt was superior. Tai said that she expected Yves to attend the next meeting, and suggested that Rick bring up the issue with Yves at that meeting.

Regarding Action #25:

Bill reported that he set up a booth with a home-made banner at the **Day at the Bay** event at Alviso, He distributed between 20 and 30 fliers, and spoke with a number of people who generally expressed interest in the work of SAVE OUR TRAILS. Bill said he thought the effort was worthwhile.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

Deferred Issues

N/A

New Issues

- a) Clean up and adoption of the Three Creeks Trail

It was noted that Matt Cano (CSJ-PRNS) sent us two documents that might serve as templates for an agreement between SOT and CSJ to set the terms of an agreement for our on-going maintenance of the Three Creeks Trail. One was an agreement for the maintenance of Buena Vista Park, the other for the maintenance of parkland adjacent to the Hitachi campus. Neither was felt to be directly applicable for the Three Creeks Trail. Bruce had written to Matt suggesting that the city propose a maintenance agreement tailored for a trail.

Steve Kline gave some up the background for the agreement signed by the Del Monte Vista Neighborhood Association for Buena Vista Park. The person most closely involved, he said, was John Legba.

Dave Dearborn said that the Willow Glen Neighborhood Association had signed an agreement for the adoption and maintenance of a section of the LGCT. Dave said he would forward the Board a copy of that agreement. The person at the city responsible for coordinating the park and trail volunteers was Mollie Tobias, he added.

Taisia made a motion to form a committee to deal with the adoption and clean-up of the Three Creeks Trail. The motion was passed by a vote of 7-0-1.

The following people volunteered to serve on the committee:

Joan Bohnett, Taisia McMahan, Bruce Tichinin, Helen Chapman, Bill Rankin, Carlos Babcock, Richard Silva, Jack Nadeau, and Roland Lebrun

The first meeting of the committee will be at Joan's house on Wednesday, November 2nd, at 6:30 pm.

b) Outreach Committee

Bill said he would schedule a meeting of the Outreach Committee.

c) Santa Clara County Parkland Acquisition Meetings

The Santa Clara County Parks Commission is holding three meetings in the next week (Oct. 18-Oct. 25) to allow the public to express their opinions regarding how parkland acquisition funds should be spent. This is our opportunity to have our voice heard that the county should allocate funds for the purchase of the ROW of the eastern alignment of the Three Creeks Trail.

We discussed how we might best make our voice heard and our views adopted. Most members present volunteered to attend and participate at at least one of these meetings. Tai said that she would send out an email to all members requesting (a) that they attend one of the meetings and speak up for purchase of the eastern ROW, and (b) that they send a letter or email to the Commission putting that request in writing.

Martin thought it would be better if she sent two separate emails; one right away, requesting participation at a meeting, and the second after a while, requesting that a letter be sent. Tai agreed and said she would do that.

d) Carlos Babcock Issues

Carlos Babcock wanted to bring a number of issues to our attention:

- Richard Zapelli is sponsoring a safe-routes-to-school program in Willow Glen.
- We can follow Carlos by signing up to his Tweet account or to his blog at <http://1sqmile.blogspot.com>
- A second bike shop just opened in downtown Campbell
- Another running of “Kidical Mass” will take place on October 30th, sponsored by the Treehouse in the Glen on Lincoln Avenue.
- A bike share program is soon coming to the south Bay Area.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on Monday evening, November 14th, at 7:00 pm.

Appendix A: Abbreviations

- CSJ = The City of San Jose
- EIR = Environmental Impact Report
- FOSCT = Friends of the Stevens Creek Trail
- GRPC = Guadalupe River Parks Conservancy
- LGCT = Los Gatos Creek Trail
- NC = Nominating Committee
- OSA = Open Space Authority
- PRNS = Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services
- ROW = right-of-way
- SCVWD = Santa Clara Valley Water District
- SJPF = San Jose Parks Foundation
- SVBC = Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
- SOT = SAVE OUR TRAILS
- UPRR = Union Pacific Railroad
- WGNA = Willow Glen Neighborhood Association
- 3CT = The Three Creeks Trail

Appendix B: Open Action Items

No.	Date	Who	Action	Due
4	5/31/11	Bill R.	Send an email to the Board specifying details (size, color scheme, etc.) of the banner with proposed logo and text.	8/8
5	5/31/11	Bill R.	Get three bids for the banner and present them to the Board.	8/8
9	5/31/11	Joan	Initiate process of devising formal procedure for resignations.	11/14
19	8/8/11	Taisia	Get a letter from GRPC that states that they will act as our financial agent in grant applications, or some equivalent instrument	8/12
22	8/8/11	Bill R.	Speak to Rick H. about his progress on producing the banner	8/12
23	8/8/11	Martin	Send agenda of next meeting to <u>all</u> members.	11/8
26	10/17/11	Martin	Format information from gmail list so Mary Ellen can add entries to members roster.	11/1
27	10/17/11	Bill	Schedule a meeting of the Outreach Committee	11/8
28	10/17/11	Taisia	Send an email to all members requesting their attendance and participation at one of the meetings of the Santa Clara County Parks Commission on parkland acquisition to advocate that funds be allocated to the purchase of the Eastern portion of the Three Creeks Trail.	10/18
29	10/17/11	Taisia	Send an email to all members requesting they respond in writing to the Santa Clara County Parks Commission on Parkland Acquisition.	11/1