

Save Our Trails!



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

Minutes

Save Our Trails Meeting

Monday, December 12, 2011

Willow Glen Baptist Church

ADMINISTRATION

Attendance

Directors in Attendance

Martin Delson, Taisia McMahon, Jack Nadeau, Mary Ellen Petrich, Bill Rankin, Richard Silva, Lars Thurfjell (making a quorum).

Directors Absent

Joan Bohnett (excused), Rick Hernandez, Roland LeBrun (excused)

Directors on Leave

Shirley Rogers

Members in Attendance

David Ginsborg, Barbara Keegan (a new member)

Visitors in Attendance

Frances Reyes, of the office of Councilmember Pierluigi Oliverio.

Minutes Approved

The minutes of the meeting of November 14, 2011 were unanimously accepted. The minutes of the meeting of November 21, 2011 were amended and unanimously accepted as amended.

Excused Absences

The request for excused absence by Joan Bohnett and Roland LeBrun were unanimously approved.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

The discussion of several New Issues requested by Roland was deferred because of his absence. At Taisia's request, another New Issue was added to consider planning the Annual General Meeting and nominating officers.

OFFICERS' REPORTS

President's Report

Taisia suggested that part of the next meeting (Jan. 9th) be in closed session to consider some issues of strategic planning.

Vice-President's Report

Bill reported that Joan has volunteered the use of her house for a meeting of the Outreach Subcommittee on December 19th at 6:30 pm.

Treasurer's Report

Mary Ellen has continued to moderate email up to this point, but felt that it would be a good idea if someone else would take on that job, which is not at all hard. Bill said that he would do so.

Secretary's Report

Martin said that he erred in having cc'd all Board Members on the email where he sent the expanded member roster to Mary Ellen. He requested that Board Members delete that list from their files, and wanted to remind the Board of the By-Law about the proprietary nature of this list. (*"No Member shall give or sell this roster to any party outside of the Organization without a legitimate purpose directly related to the conduct of the Organization's business and the express authorization of the Board of Directors."*).

PROGRESS ON OPEN ACTION ITEMS

No.	Who	Action	Progress
4	Bill R.	Send an email to the Board specifying details (size, color scheme, etc.) of the banner with	Still open
5	Bill R.	Get three bids for the banner and present them	Still open
9	Joan	Initiate process of devising formal procedure	Still open
19	Taisia	Get a letter from GRPC that states that they will act as our financial agent in grant	Still open
23	Martin	Send agenda of next meeting to <u>all</u> members.	Done
26	Martin & Taisia	Format information from gmail list so Mary Ellen can add entries to members' roster.	Done.
27	Bill	Schedule a meeting of the Outreach Committee	Done; meeting to be Dec 19

28	Taisia	Inform Supervisor Shirakawa about the result of the day's vote on the "Basic Principles"	Done.
29	Taisia	Inform Don Weden about the result of the day's vote on the "Basic Principles"	Done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None

Deferred Issues

Since Rick was not present, we did not discuss the surface of the path on the Three Creeks Trail.

New Issues

- a) Presentation by David Ginsborg

David Ginsborg is a member of SOT and a candidate for the Board of the SCVWD from District 2. He recognized that SOT will not endorse candidates for political office, but wanted to speak about his qualifications for that position and about issues in front the Water District. One thing that Mr. Ginsborg reported that is of special interest to SOT is that the Water District is preparing to ask the voters for more money. They have a long list of projects that they want to perform with the additional funding, but, in contrast to the last request for funds, this time they have not included trails among the projects to be funded.

See <http://safecleanwater.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/04/Full-version-worksheet-12-6.pdf>

There will be a meeting on December 20th at the SCVWD that will consider this plan, known as the "Safe, Clean Water and natural Flood Protection Plan". It was moved that Martin be authorized to draft a letter to the Directors of the SCVWD to state SOT's position that the Plan should make explicit provision for trails along the valley waterways. The motion carried unanimously. Martin is to submit the draft letter to the Board for approval, upon which he should send it to the Directors of the Water District.

- b) Annual meeting

Taisia noted that the time is coming close for consider planning for the Annual Meeting, to be held March 12th. She asked that the Outreach Subcommittee take up the issue of planning for the Annual Meeting at their next subcommittee meeting. Taisia said that she would get in touch with the members of the Nominating Committee, as well as Garnetta Annable , to ask them to start considering nominations for the Board of Directors.

c) Annual dues

Martin raised the question about how best to collect the annual dues from those who wish to be an Active Members for 2012. Mary Ellen said that in 2011, many members paid the dues at the Annual Meeting, and we can make arrangements to do the same in 2012. Taisia said that she would send an email to all members reminding them that dues are due, and asking them to pay them via the website. Mary Ellen will bring a list of all paid-up members to the Annual Meeting to ensure that only paid-up members are allowed to vote. (Members will be permitted to pay their annual dues at the meeting.)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on Monday evening, January 12th, at 7:00 pm. The first part of the meeting will be open, after which we will go into closed session to consider an issue of strategic planning.

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.	1/12

5	5/31/11	Bill R.	Get three bids for the banner and present them to the Board.	1/12
9	5/31/11	Joan	Initiate process of devising formal procedure for resignations.	1/12
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	1/12
23	8/8/11	Martin	Send agenda of next meeting to <u>all</u> members.	1/9
28	12/12/11	Taisia	Get in touch with members of the Nominating Committee to ask them to start considering nominees to the Board of Directors	1/9
29	12/12/11	Mary Ellen	Add entries derived from Taisia's gmail list to the membership roster as Associate Members	12/19
30	12/12/11	Bill, Mary Ellen, Annette Rankin	Meet to learn about requirements for monitoring Board email.	1/9
31	12/12/11	Mary Ellen	Add information to the SOT web page about the expiration of the officers' terms of office	1/9
32	12/12/11	Martin	Compose letter to members from the gmail list for whom we have only email addresses, but no name, requesting additional identifying information. Send letter to Taisia.	12/16
33	12/12/11	Taisia	Send out letter to members from the gmail list for whom we have only email addresses to request additional identifying information.	12/19
34	12/12/11	Martin	Draft a letter to the SCVWD stating SOT's position that money for trails be explicitly identified in the upcoming ballot initiative. Send letter to Board for Board approval.	12/15
35	12/12/11	Taisia	Send out letter to all members asking Active Members to pay their annual dues for 2012, and also requesting that Associate Members consider becoming Active Members.	1/9
35	12/12/11	Taisia	Get in touch with members of the Nominating Committee, as well as with Garnetta Annabel, to ask them to start considering nominees for election to the Board of Directors.	1/9