

Save Our Trails!



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

Minutes

Save Our Trails Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 2013

Willow Glen Baptist Church

ADMINISTRATION

Attendance

Directors in Attendance

Joan Bohnett, Joe Carpenter (newly elected to the Board), Martin Delson, Jake Jacobson, Scott Lane, Roland LeBrun, Jack Nadeau, Bill Rankin, Richard Silva, Bruce Tichinin (making a quorum).

Directors Absent

Corinne Asturias (excused), Taisia McMahon (excused), Mary Ellen Petrich (excused), Lars Thurfjell (on leave), Bertha Ward (newly elected to the Board)

Members in Attendance

Dorsey Moore (Director, Open Space Authority)

Visitors in Attendance

Melrose Cacal, staff to Councilmember Oliverio

Invited Speakers

Jim Reber, San Jose Parks Foundation

Introductions

Joe Carpenter, participating in his first Board Meeting as a Board member, introduced himself as an active bicyclist and member of the District 6 Neighborhood Leaders Group (D6NLG), ex-president of the Burbank Del Monte NAC.

Minutes Approved

The draft minutes of the meetings of March 5, 2013, and of March 26, 2013, were amended and unanimously accepted as amended.

Excused Absences

The absences of Corinne Asturias, Taisia McMahon, and Mary Ellen Petrich were unanimously excused.

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

None.

PRESENTATIONS BY GUESTS

Jim Reber, of the San Jose Parks Foundation, spoke about the reasons for and history of the establishment of the SJPF, and how the Foundation can help individual park-related projects throughout the City of San Jose.

- The funding for the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services in San Jose is down 39%, as is the staffing
- The city asked Jim's help in setting up an organization to help the city raise money for parks in general and for specific projects
- The SJPF works with neighborhood groups, providing a way to raise tax-deductible donations money without the time, effort, and paperwork of establishing a 501(c)(3) and the associated money-collecting apparatus
- The SJPF does not presume to tell neighborhood groups what to do.
- Donations to SAVE OUR TRAILS can be made either on-line on the SJPF website, or by sending a check to the SJPF, identifying SAVE OUR TRAILS somewhere on the check.

The Board approved, by a vote of 10-0, with no abstentions, the memo of understanding between SAVE OUR TRAILS and the San Jose Parks Foundation.

Joan Bohnett made a contribution to SAVE OUR TRAILS by writing a check to the Parks Foundation and giving it to Mr. Reber.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Roland said that there will be an EIR scoping study regarding the development of a 70-acre site adjacent to a tunnel under CA-85 in South San Jose. This tunnel is currently closed and filled with dirt, but if it were reopened, it would provide a way to link Albertson Parkway Trail and residences south of CA-85 with industry, light rail, and Caltrain north of CA-85. He requested attendance at the meeting by Board members to ensure that the EIR mention the tunnel as one of the mitigation measures for the development.

Dorsey Moore made several announcements relative to the Open Space Authority

1. The OSA is now formulating a 30-year vision, and is soliciting input from the general public by taking a survey on its website: <http://www.cvw3.org/>
2. The OSA is looking for a replacement for a Board Director for District 6.
3. There are seven open seats on the OSA Citizen's Advisory Committee: for Districts 2, 6, 7, and for Labor, Parks, and Civic Organizations.
4. The Coyote Valley Open Space Preserve property was just purchased. There will be a celebration on May 11th.
5. There will be a Founder's Day celebration in September

6. There will be an “Evolution of Green” event starting April 3rd at the Museums of Los Gatos, displaying the environmental efforts of our local communities over the past fifty years; see <http://www.sanjose.com/evolution-of-green-e1854492>
7. The California Legislature is now considering legislation to lower the threshold for passing special local taxes from 66-2/3 % to 55%.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Joan said that she would be calling a meeting of the Governance Committee. Committee members requested that the meeting be postponed until after the trail clean-up on April 20th.

Scott said that he wanted to get the Clean-up committee together to plan the trail clean-up. Bill said he would participate, and Joan said she could if the meeting were at her house. Martin volunteered to do a tour of the trail and report on the current conditions.

DEFERRED ISSUES

STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS

Items 88, 108, and 103 were closed. Joan requested that the Due Date for item 134 be changed to “on-going”.

NEW ISSUES

Changing the date of the monthly meeting

Consideration of the issue of was deferred *sine die*.

Changing the rules relating to voting by email

The issue was assigned to the Governance Committee.

Defining a class of member as an “honorary member”

The issue was also assigned to the Governance Committee.

Letter of Appreciation to Senator Beall

The motion was made that the Board write a formal letter of appreciation to Senator Beall for his vote in favor of extending the expiring \$800,000 RHZ grant, and also increasing the amount by 50%. The motion passed by a vote of 9-0 with 1 abstention.

Planning for the Annual Meeting

Jake received a vote of thanks for his taking charge of the organizational efforts for the Third Annual Meeting.

He presented the Board with his suggestions for a smoother effort for the Fourth Annual Meeting. He suggested that planning start in January, and that the entire Board be involved in the effort. Joan

thought that the Governance Committee should take up the question of deciding how best to organize the planning for next year's meeting. Roland regretted the decision to hold the meeting in the Bascom Community Center, as necessitated by the unavailability of a more centrally-located venue, and suggested that next year we find a location in San Jose District 7 for the meeting.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

No.	Date	Who	Action	Due
137	4/2/13	Joan	Reconvene Governance Committee	After 4/20/13
138	4/2/13	Bill, Scott, Joan	Plan activities at Three Creeks Trail Clean-Up	4/20/13
139	4/2/13	Martin	Report on conditions along the Three Creeks Trail	4/4/13
140	4/2/13	Martin	Draft letter of thanks to Senator Jim Beall, send to Roland for fact-checking, then send to Board for approval, then send to Sen. Beall	4/30/13
141	4/2/13	Bill	Contact Bertha Ward about her absence from the Board Meeting, and informing her of the policy of asking for an excused absence.	4/30/13

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on Tuesday evening, May 7th, at 7:00 pm.