

Save Our Trails!



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

Minutes

Save Our Trails Meeting
Monday, January 14, 2013
Willow Glen Baptist Church

ADMINISTRATION

Attendance

Directors in Attendance

Joan Bohnett, Martin Delson, Jake Jacobson, Scott Lane, Taisia McMahon, Jack Nadeau, Mary Ellen Petrich, Bill Rankin, Bruce Tichinin (making a quorum).

Directors Absent

Corinne Asturias, Roland LeBrun, Richard Silva, Lars Thurfjell (on leave)

Members in Attendance

Larry Ames

Visitors in Attendance

Laura Tran of Councilmember Oliverio's Office

Minutes Approved

The draft minutes of the meeting of December 10, 2012 were accepted as amended.

Excused Absences

Corinne Asturias, Roland LeBrun, Richard Silva

DIRECTORS' REPORTS

Secretary's Report

Martin said he happened to travel along the San Tomas Aquino Creek Trail on a Monday afternoon, and was pleasantly surprised to see how popular the trail was, especially with pedestrians, apparently workers from the near-by office complexes, out for an afternoon stroll.

Treasurers' Report

The balance in the checking account is \$933.71, not including \$180 due to the Church for space rental for the next four months.

Attorney's Report

Bruce spoke with a representative of the Trust for Public Land to ask if they would considering purchasing the ROW of the Eastern Alignment to landbank it for the City.

DEFERRED ISSUES

Choice of date of meeting

The results of the email survey of the Board showed that the most convenient date for the meeting would be the first or the third Tuesday of every month. Taisia confirmed that the Church would be able to make a meeting room available for us for either of these days.

The consensus favored the first Tuesday. We then considered whether we could delay the start of the meeting until 7:30 to accommodate Board Members for whom 7:00 was convenient. However it would still be necessary to end the meeting at 9:00 pm. The feeling was that the full two hours are often needed to conclude the most pressing business.

A motion was made that the meeting date be changed to the first Tuesday every month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm, starting in February 2013. The motion carried by a vote of 8-0 with one abstention.

Three Creeks Trail Clean-up

Martin said he had just been on the trail and there was both some minor trash (candy wrappers, empty bottles, etc.) as well as large piles of bush. He thought that dealing with the bush would require some machinery, and would be best left to the city, but that the minor trash could be handled by a couple of volunteers in a single pass along the trail. Martin thought that repeating this on a monthly basis would be sufficient to prevent a serious build-up of trash. Bill said he would reactivate the committee that was formed to deal with trail clean-up.

T-shirt sale

A motion was made to set the price for sale of SOT T-shirts in accord with a suggestion made by Roland at the November meeting; viz, that \$5 be added to the cost of any T-shirt purchased when SOT mails the shirt by mail. However, the special price of \$20 for T-shirt plus membership would be kept even when the T-shirt is sent by mail. In summary

- T-shirts for members: \$5 for shirt + \$5 handling = \$10
- T-shirts only, for non-members: \$10 for shirt + \$5 handling = \$15
- T-shirts plus membership: \$15 for membership + \$5 for shirt (free handling) = \$20

The motion carried by a vote of 7-2.

Posting official communications on the web site

The motion was made for all formal SAVE OUR TRAILS position papers approved by the Board to be posted on the web site. The motion was approved by a vote of 8-0 with one abstention.

Contacting membership for the sake of soliciting new Board Members

Larry Ames, as the lead on the Nominating Committee, asked the Board to provide him with a current list of the membership so he could contact the members to solicit members for the Board for nomination for the election to be held at the Annual Meeting of March 5th. The Board granted this permission without objection.

Minor change to the Mission Statement

The current mission statement is *“To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all people”*. It was moved that the word “people” be deleted, so the mission statement agrees with the shortened version that appears on the letterhead.

The motion carried by a vote of 8-0 with one abstention. The new mission statement now reads *“To promote trails in Santa Clara County for the benefit and enjoyment of all.”*

STATUS OF ACTION ITEMS

#	Action	Disposition
19	Call Leslie Hamilton to get a letter from GRPC that formally confirms that they will act as our financial agent in grant applications, or for tax-deductible donations.	Taisia said she would follow up.
51	Get in touch with the Washington Area Community Coalition to ask for 2-3 minutes at their next meeting. If granted, inform them of progress w/ Three Creeks Trail and issues regarding the eastern extension. Invite them to attend our General Meeting.	Martin to get in touch with Helen Chapman for follow-up.
55	Send reminders to Active Members to pay dues.	Deleted pending
67	Speak with Zoe Lofgren about whether Federal money might be available for trail ROW acquisition and/or trail construction	Need to follow up.
82	Confer with Larry Ames about organizing another trail tour for the public and dignitaries.	Done
88	Get in touch with Matt Cano to ask him if he will talk to the Board about the disposition of Parkland Dedication Ordinance funds.	Open
98	Look into what new projects we should be involved in.	Done
99	Send “get well” card to John Fernandez	Done
105	Set up form to allow visitors to order T-shirts from the web page.	Open
107	Get in touch with realtor who is listing the property on the Three Creeks Trail ROW near Kelley Park.	Open
108	Get in touch with the Trust for Public Land to explore their possible interest in purchasing the land for the eastern alignment for landbanking.	Open
109	Put Larry Ames’s ideas into words for the Los Gatos Creek Trail to Lonus connector.	Done

NEW ISSUES

Terminology of the Annual Meeting

It was pointed out that the By-Laws are not consistent with respect to the name given to the meeting at which the Board and Officers are elected. It is sometimes called the “General Meeting” and sometimes called the “Annual Meeting”. For the sake of consistency, it was moved that we adopt the term “Annual Meeting” in the future when referring to this meeting.

Backup Secretary

Martin said that he would be out of town and unable to attend the February meeting. He suggested that there be a back-up secretary who would take notes in the case that he was not at a meeting. (He would then use these notes to derive the formal minutes in the form that is currently used.) Joan volunteered to fill this role.

Communications from David Ginsborg

The Board discussed two emails from member David Ginsborg concerning trail lighting. One pointed out problems with the lighting on the Guadalupe River Trail near the train underpass. The other suggested a need for lighting on the Los Gatos Creek Trail where it passes under I-280. The Board decided to defer discussion of these issues until the next meeting.

Budget for Annual Meeting

It was moved that the Board allocate a budget of \$300 for food and refreshments for the Annual Meeting of March 5th. This budget was approved by a vote of 9-0.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

No.	Date	Who	Action	Due
111	1/14/13	Bill	Reactivate committee for monthly cleanup of Three Creeks Trail.	1/21/13
112	1/14/13	Mary Ellen	Send Larry Ames the list of all members for soliciting new Board	1/21/13
113	1/14/13	Taisia	Obtain room in church for the Annual Meeting on March 5 th .	1/21/13
114	1/14/13	Taisia	Contact Yves regarding the results of any decision regarding the	1/21/13
115	1/14/13	Martin	Place a copy of all formal position papers approved by the Board	1/21/13

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be on Tuesday evening, February 5th, at 7:00 pm.