

Save Our Trails!



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

Minutes

Save Our Trails Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2014

Dwell Christian Church

ADMINISTRATION

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Attendance

Directors in Attendance

Joan Bohnett, Corinne Asturias, Martin Delson, Jack Nadeau, Bill Rankin, Lars Thurfjell, and Bertha Ward (making a quorum).

Directors Absent

Joe Carpenter, Mary Ellen Petrich (excused), and Richard Silva (excused)

Members in Attendance

Larry Ames, chair of the Nominating Committee; Dave Dearborn

Visitors in Attendance

None

Invited Speakers

None

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting of February 17 were approved by a vote of 6-0 with one abstention.

Resignations

Corinne informed the Board that she would be moving away from San Jose and asked to resign from the Board effective at the end of the meeting. The Board voted unanimously to accept her resignation.

Joe Carpenter had asked the Board via email to resign. The Board voted unanimously to accept his resignation, effective immediately.

May Meeting

On the same day as the normally scheduled SOT April Meeting (4/21) there will be a debate of San Jose mayoral candidates on the subject of parks and trails. Therefore, it was decided to hold a brief meeting in advance of the debate to allow Board Members to attend both. The SOT meeting will be at Cafe Strich in downtown San Jose; details to be determined and sent out later.

REPORTS

President's Report

1. Bill reported he was at a meeting of Rails to Trails where he learned that money may be available to help fund rail-to-trail conversions.
2. Bill reported on a meeting of Friends of Five Wounds that he attended. One of the topics discussed was the state of negotiations between Santa Clara County and the VTA regarding the purchase of the trail right-of-way from VTA.

Nominating Committee

Larry Ames reported that Dave Grossman and Nancy Ianni had resigned from the Nominating Committee, and that Leslee Hamilton was out of town, leaving just himself and Helen Chapman available. The two of them met to nominate candidates for the election to be held at the Annual Meeting. Larry also announced that Dorsey Moore and Garnetta Annable both volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee in the future.

Members of the Board urged the Nominating Committee to search for additional candidates for the Board. Bertha and Corinne both suggested that Board Members talk to companies around town who support volunteerism on the part of their employees.

CONTINUING ISSUES

Bridge over the Los Gatos Creek

Larry Ames reviewed for the Board the discussions that were held at a recent meeting of the Committee for Green Foothills regarding the additional bridge across the Los Gatos Creek that Union Pacific is planning to build. At that meeting a representative of Union Pacific stated that the railroad will work with the City of San Jose to ensure that the new bridge accommodates the Trail undercrossing planned for that location.

Planning for the Annual Meeting

Action items were reviewed and further actions assigned (see below).

Trail Clean-Up

Bill reported on a discussion he had with Mollie Tobias (Parks & Rec. staff for San Jose) on the trail clean-up scheduled for March 29th. Mollie said that she will arrange to move the wood chips to more convenient locations, and that she will be able to provide a group of high school student volunteers to help with the clean-up.

DEFERRED ISSUES

1. The Board agreed to forgo the purchase of a Fold-N-Go table at the present time.
2. It was reported that the planned parking structure on Lelong Avenue at Tamien Station apparently will not interfere with the passage of the Guadalupe River Trail in that area.

NEW ISSUES

Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Trestle Replacement over the Los Gatos Creek

Larry reported on the efforts to get the city to rescind its decision to replace the railroad trestle (which will form the northern terminus of the Three Creeks Trail at its junction with the Los Gatos Creek Trail). He commented that the City of San Jose had not given more than a perfunctory public outreach before reaching their decision.

Daylighting of the Los Gatos Creek

Larry reminded the Board that the Los Gatos Creek is conducted through a long culvert under the intersections of Montgomery Street and Park Avenue, making it impossible for the Los Gatos Creek Trail to follow the riparian corridor there. He talked about the efforts of himself and others to have the city “daylight” the Creek; i.e. remove it from the culvert, opening it up to daylight, and building bridges for the streets over the Creek at that intersection.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm. The next meeting will be the Fourth Annual Meeting, scheduled for Monday, March 24, at 7:00 pm at Dwell Christian Church.

SUMMARY OF NEW ACTION ITEMS

No.	Date	Who	Action	Due
206.11	3/17/14	Jack	Help Joan inventory T-shirts, and bring to Annual meeting	3/24/14
206.12	3/17/14	Martin	Make 40 copies of agenda, bring to meeting	“
206.13	3/17/14	Corinne	Copy and distribute flier for annual meeting	“
206.14	3/17/14	Bill	Post notice of Annual Meeting on WG Back Fence e-List	“
206.15	3/17/14	Bill	Bring maps of Three Creeks Trail	“
206.16	3/17/14	Bill	Contact church about availability of chairs and rectangular tables	“
206.17	3/17/14	Bill	Bring SOT banner	“
210	3/17/14	Martin & Joan	Draft and present a revised set of “Policies”	4/30/14
211	3/17/14	Martin	Send reminder to Board to RSVP to San Jose Stage for Mayoral Debate	3/21/14
212	3/17/14	Bill	Compile list of people willing to show up at agency meetings to show support for trails	4/30/14
213	3/17/14	Larry Ames	Call meeting of Nominating Committee to suggest additional Board Members	4/30/14
214	3/17/14	Bertha	Bring canopies and picnic tables to trail clean-up	3/29/14
215	3/17/14	Bill	Bring bagels to trail clean-up	3/29/14
216	3/17/14	Bill	Post notice of trail clean-up on WG Back Fence e-List	3/21/14