

**Minutes, Save Our Trails Board Meeting**  
**Saturday, March 20, 2010**  
**Willow Glen Baptist Church**

Directors in Attendance

Joan Bohnett, Martin Delson, Roland LeBrun, Taisia McMahon, Jack Nadeau, Mary Ellen Petrich (first half), and Bill Rankin.

Directors absent were: Gina America, Rick Hernandez, Shirley Nakamiyo, Richard Silva, and Bruce Tichinin.

Active Members in Attendance

Larry Ames, Nancy Ianni, Richard Zapelli

Taisia chaired the meeting.

Introductions

All persons present introduced themselves.

Minutes

Joan moved that the draft minutes of the meeting of Feb. 20, 2010 be amended (a) to include the names of the Board Members elected at the previous meeting, and (b) remove the vote count in the vote for Secretary. The Directors voted to approve the Minutes as so amended.

Treasurer's Report

Mary-ellen reported that we had \$401 in the treasury. The Board agreed that the Treasurer's report to the Directors should respect the privacy of persons making donations who wished to remain anonymous. The report should show the income from dues, the income from declared donations, and the income from anonymous donations separately.

The Board also agreed that the monthly Treasurer's report should, in general, state the total income during the past month, the total expenditures, and the total remaining in the treasury.

Attorney's Report

In Bruce's absence, Taisia made the following report on his behalf:

1. Incorporation: Our first submission of the Articles of Incorporation to the Secretary of State of California experienced a hiccup, despite Roland's sacrifice in driving the Articles up personally to Sacramento so that they would be processed in time for today's meeting. The Articles were returned to me for the minor, entirely-doable correction that I must remove listing my PO Box address as a second

place (in addition to my street address) where I can be contacted as the agent for service of process for the Corporation. I expect that I will have fully-approved articles for the April meeting.

2. Ballpark SEIR: Earlier this week, I copied you all on the SEIR Comment Letter I wrote to the City on behalf of SOT requesting study of trail extensions from the Ballpark that would link it to the Los Gatos/3Creeks Trail junction at Lonus Ave and would link it to the Guadalupe River Trail and Stevens Creek Trail via an extension to Confluence Point.

3. Acquisition of the 3 Creeks Trail ROW from Lonus to Minnesota: This process appears to continue to be on track to have the acquisition occur in the near future.

#### Formation of Committees

The various committees that had been formed last year (e.g. the By-Laws Committee; the Trestle Clean Up Committee; the Trestle History Committee; etc.) were dissolved.

The following new Committees were constituted.

##### Governance Committee

This committee is concerned with suggesting policies related to the organization, and modifications to the By-Laws. Initial members are:

Joan Bohnett, Martin Delson, Roland Lebrun

##### Budget Committee

This committee is concerned preparing an annual budget and presenting it to the Board. Initial member is:

Mary Ellen Petrich.

##### Nominating Committee

This committee is concerned presenting the Board with a slate containing candidates for all elective positions. Initial members are:

Larry Ames, Nancy Ianni

Taisia, as President, is an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.

#### Electronic Voting

There was an inconclusive discussion about the pros and cons of allowing the Board to vote by email. Taisia decided to table this discussion for a future meeting.

In a related issue, Taisia said it was important that all communications regarding organizational issues be addressed to the entire Board, not just to a few selected individuals.

**A motion was made, seconded, and passed, as follows: To implement two new closed email categories, to be created and edited manually by the Web Mistress: one for all Members of the Board of Directors, and the other for all Active Members.**

These categories would be in addition to the existing open email category which any one can join. Larry volunteered to help Mary Ellen set up these email categories.

#### Coyote- Alamos Canal Trail

In recognition of the fact that we have decided to study the issue of actively promoting this trail, but have not yet decided whether or not to do so, Taisia asked Roland to make a presentation on the issues for the next meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Taisia also asked Roland to demonstrate the support of his neighborhood for our involvement by bringing in new members to participate in that meeting.

#### History Trail

Joan pointed out the historical significance to the Santa Clara Valley of the railroad spur to the canneries along the right of way of the planned Three Creeks Trail, and asked to be given authorization to explore with local historical societies the possibility of having the trail designated as a "historical trail". In response, **a motion was made, seconded, and passed, as follows: To pursue the idea of having the Three Creeks Trail as a historical trail and to authorize Joan Bohnett to work with The Pioneers and History San José to that end.**

#### Upcoming political events

Richard Zapelli indicated several upcoming political events where the presence of Save Our Trails would be worthwhile. Among these events is the Envision 2040 meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup> on the timing and localization of new growth. **A motion was made, seconded, and passed, as follows: To authorize Martin Delson to represent Save Our Trails at the upcoming meeting of Envision 2040 and to point out to participants at the meeting the importance of the trail system to new development.**

Earth Day will be celebrated on April 24<sup>th</sup> this year. Richard suggested that Save Our Trails staff a table on Lincoln Avenue. Larry Ames volunteered to help prepare a brochure for the event with information about our mission and how people may learn more about us.

#### Next Meetings

Taisia has reserved the Church for meetings the third Saturday of every month. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 2010, and subsequent meetings on 5/15, 6/19, 7/17, 8/21, 9/18, 10/16, 11/20, and 12/18.

The meeting was adjourned.