

**Friends of Sausal Creek
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, August 12, 2015, 7-9 p.m.
Park Blvd. Presbyterian Church, 4101 Park Blvd.,
2nd Level Café Area, Oakland**

Our mission is to promote awareness and appreciation of the Sausal Creek Watershed and to inspire action that will help preserve and protect the creek and its watershed as both natural and community resources.

Board Members Present: Helen McKinley, Mark Rauzon, Sean Welch, Carl Kohnert, Paul Frank, Richelle Jacobs, Dee Rosario, Eleanor Dunn

Absent: Steve Ritchie, Rob Leidy, Barbara Goldenberg, Richard Kauffman, Bob Roat, Harry Schrauth

Staff Present: Michelle Krieg, Restoration & Nursery Manager;
Kimra McAfee, Executive Director

Guests: Jill Flaningam Miller, Education Specialist;
Alan Tong, Crew Leader

Kimra called the board's attention to these upcoming events and encouraged everyone to participate:

Pallid Manzanita Workday at Chabot (rescheduled) – Sat., Aug. 15, 9 a.m.-noon

Trail Stewardship Crew – Sun., August 30, and Sun., Sept. 27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

FOSC Member Meeting: Gardening and Birds by Pat Bacchetti – Wed., Sept. 16, 7 p.m.

Creek to Bay Day – Sat., Sept. 19, 9 a.m.-noon

Native Plant Sale and Open House – Sun., Oct. 25, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

7:05 **Remarks from the Vice President, Dee Rosario,
standing in for President Steve Ritchie**
Sign-up sheets were passed around for Creek to Bay Day and the Plant Sale.

7:10 **Board Member Briefing**
Sean Welch reported on and answered questions about background checks and other related matters. A policy will be drafted for board approval at the next board meeting.

7:42 **Summer High School Intern Program**
Jill Flaningam Miller, FOSC Education Specialist, reported on our 2015 Summer Program, which she oversaw. This program trained seven teens who did restoration work all around the watershed. They led their own restoration crews, participated in an enriching program using the agenda provided by Michelle, FOSC's Restoration and Nursery Manager, and had presentations and

discussions led by local experts.

Kimra provided data: 342 staff hours at a cost of nearly \$7300. This cost was up by \$1300 from last summer's intern program, and took almost 100 more staff hours. Also, last summer we had ten interns, three more than this year.

Kimra suggested that next summer we may want to change the program by partnering with Team Oakland, an Oakland Public Works youth employment and job training program that hired 100 15-24-year-olds this summer. Their trainees were split into 10 teams who worked half days for six weeks. Kimra suggested that if FOSC were to partner with Team Oakland for our 2016 Summer Program, we might be able to have one or two teams with whom we would work exclusively. This would afford us the opportunity to train many more youth, and add diversity to our summer training. Additionally, no outreach would be necessary, and the kids would get paid through the program. The board agreed that Kimra should meet with Mike Perlmutter of Oakland Environmental Services to discuss specifics, and to determine whether it would make sense for us to go in this direction for next summer. FOSC would still be responsible for fundraising to cover our staff's time and any field supplies.

Jill reported on bats on Bridgeview Trail. She is offering to lead a bat walk later in August, and in September as well.

8:05

Handling of Watershed Artifacts

Dee reported that native artifacts -- purportedly from Sausal Creek -- were recently offered on eBay. Mark bought a mortar. He passed it around for board members to see. Dee urged that we come up with a policy for when FOSC hears about such artifacts. It was decided that a subcommittee will return to the board with a draft protocol. Board members who would like to pitch in towards the cost of the mortar were encouraged to do so.

8:15

Minutes and Commitments Review

Kimra expressed her appreciation to those board members who attended this summer's successful Meet & Greet. 43 people came -- a mix of volunteers, one of our Adopt-A-Spot liaisons, and leaders from other organizations, including Dimond Improvement Association, Keep Oakland Beautiful, Oakmore Homes Association, Peralta Hacienda, and Friends of Five Creeks.

Kimra said she will be setting up a 20th Anniversary Committee meeting. She will share the Google Doc planning document when she is back from vacation and after Michelle has the chance to look it over.

She clarified that we will not be submitting an application for the River Parkways Grant program.

Minutes from the June 10th meeting were approved unanimously.

8:19

Policy on Limited Authority for Executive Director to Execute Grant Agreements

Kimra and Sean explained the need for an official policy giving the

Executive Director authority to sign for smaller grants. The board agreed unanimously. A copy of this and other resolutions will be kept in a binder for future board members to reference.

Kimra urged all board members to read the Alameda County agreement for watershed coordination services which she will forward to them.

8:26 **Financial Report**

Kimra went over the following financials with the board:

- Statement of Position FYE15
- Statement of Activities FYE15
- Project Timeline and Cash Flow Chart.

Rob will assist with fish relocation for the Dimond Park project.

Kimra and Michelle are working on a job announcement for the fall paid internship.

Kimra will be moving forward with the agreement for hiring the database upgrade consultant, and will be seeking someone to assist with preparation of the database for upgrade.

8:39 **Executive Director and Restoration and Nursery
Manager Respond to Questions on Staff Report**

Kimra reported that Wendy Tokuda is considering seeking a Diablo Fire Safe Council grant for removal of two Monterey pines at her newly adopted spot, which includes two pallid manzanitas. Wendy is concerned about what will grow after the removals. Dee may have insight for her based on Redwood Regional Park's similar experience. Mark strongly advocated our supporting her, and spoke about the decline of pallid manzanitas in the watershed. Additionally, Michelle urged that we focus more on the germination of new plants. Board consensus was to give Wendy our 100% support.

Michelle led a board discussion on shoe sterilization procedures for Creek to Bay Day and at the plant sale, to avoid the spread of pathogens to the plants.

Dee discussed his concern that the City of Oakland isn't picking up the debris gathered from his trail work. Michelle will assist with getting the city to remove the green waste.

Kimra asked the board to keep their eyes on the listserv and respond to any issues that arise while she and Michelle are on vacation (August 16 - 27).

9:04 **Round Robin or Reflections**

(At each meeting, Kimra asks board members each to share a word or sentence that reflects their thoughts.)

Mark said he was going to write up the story of the mortar for the newsletter.

Eleanor expressed appreciation of Michelle for her care around nursery best management practices.

Carl spoke about the bike path along Fruitvale Avenue down to the Estuary. Fruitvale is a connecting corridor between the San Francisco Bay Trail and Dimond Canyon Trail, which connects via the trail system to the Bay Area Ridge Trail. He is optimistic about the technical assistance grant that we applied for on July 31 from the National Park Service's Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. He is hoping we can highlight this as a feature of our 20th Anniversary celebration. He is excited about this as a conduit for opening up lower watershed awareness.

Kimra thanked Alan Tong, a guest at the meeting, for all he does.

9:15

Adjournment