

**Friends of Sausal Creek  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 7-9 p.m.  
Park Blvd. Presbyterian Church, 4101 Park Blvd., Room 35 on 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Oakland**

Friends of Sausal Creek works to restore, maintain, and protect the Sausal Creek Watershed. We educate future generations, involve the community in local environmental stewardship, and collaborate with agencies and other nonprofits to have a positive impact on the local ecosystem.

**Present:** Mark Rauzon, Richelle Jacobs, Dee Rosario, Richard Kauffman, Paul Frank, Harry Schrauth, Steve Ritchie, Carl Kohnert, Bob Roat, Eleanor Dunn, Rob Leidy, Barbara Goldenberg

**Absent:** Sean Welch, Helen McKinley, Bob Roat

**Staff Present:** Kimra McAfee, Executive Director

**Guests:** Linda Stonier; Stan Dodson

**Board Involvement**

**Solstice Planting Day** – Sat., Dec. 17 (start times vary by site);

**State of the Watershed** – Wed., Jan. 18, 7 p.m., at the  
Fruitvale/San Antonio Senior Center, 3301 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 200 (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)

**Remarks from President** Steve announced that Rob Leidy and Dee Rosario are stepping down as Treasurer and Vice President. He also said there was a possibility that Dee would have to leave the board altogether because of a conflict of interest since he gained a seat on the East Bay Regional Parks Board.

**Items for Master Calendar, 2017**

A decision was made to reschedule the April board meeting to April 5 so Kimra could attend.

The annual Meet & Greet potluck was set for July 19th.

A decision was made to have a table at *Dia de los Muertos* in late October.

**Endowment Committee Report**

Carl reported on the progress of the *For the Future Fund*. He will consult with an attorney who specializes in non-profits to clarify tax implications. He shared some ideas about the next phase of fundraising. The board asked the committee to make a recommendation on a fundraising goal for the fund for 2017 when the committee meets this spring.

**Minutes and Commitments Review**

Hayward Blake contacted Kimra to make sure "Friends of Dimond Park" would be an appropriate group name that wouldn't be conflictual for FOSC. Kimra gave the go-ahead. She noted that the board should make a point of continuing the discussion from last meeting on increasing Dimond Canyon Trail accessibility in conjunction with the Urban Streams Restoration Project improvements.

The October minutes were unanimously approved with minor edits.

### **Voting In the 2017 Board of Directors Officers**

In 2017, Steve Ritchie will serve as President, Richard Kauffman as Vice President, Richelle Jacobs as Secretary, and Harry Schrauth as Treasurer. The motion to vote in these officers was unanimously approved.

### **Board Member Briefing:**

Linda Stonier of the NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program talked to the board about the Groundwork USA Program with an eye towards its being a possible instrument towards implementing the Walkable Watershed plan. Linda and Kimra gave a rundown of the many stages and steps necessary to meet the necessary qualifications to be considered for approval -- including the creation of an entirely new organization.

A lengthy discussion ensued, with board members expressing both pros and cons of FOSC's taking on the hefty work of pursuing acceptance to this program -- work that could not be done by Kimra alone, even with Linda Stonier's support. The board decided at least to begin the exploration process. A motion was made to take the first step: to allow Carl, Helen, and Kimra to write a letter of interest. This motion was carried, with three board members abstaining.

### **Financial Report**

Kimra reviewed the Project Timeline and Cash Flow Chart with the board, including a report about FOSC's operating reserve. She updated on the success of the End-of-Year Appeal.

### **East Bay Gives -- 2017 Update**

Richard reported that East Bay Gives had no explanation for the malfunctioning of its software last May, and that they will be changing vendors for East Bay Gives 2017. East Bay Gives will be requiring more preparation from each participating organization, which will entail someone from FOSC attending each boot camp and webinar. The next date for the East Bay Gives 2017 event will be May 4th: "May the Fourth Be With You". Kimra reported that Jill Miller has volunteered to participate, and John Dowker has volunteered to help with strategies for the giving day. East Bay Community Foundation has a goal of 500 participating organizations, aiming to bring in \$5 million.

**Board Member Briefing:** Stan Dodson visited the board to discuss getting bicycles off the non-bicycle trails in the park system. He showed a "chicane" design for the entry points of those trails to discourage bicyclers from proceeding. There was a consensus that it would be good to gather data as to how many offenders there really are. The board unanimously endorsed support to give Stan organizational approval for his position as he proceeds with these efforts.

### **Executive Director Responds to Questions on Staff Report**

Kimra reported that that with Rebecca's baby due in March, Rebecca will be leaving in February. That intern job announcement has been published.

### **Retreat Ideas**

The board discussed various ideas for this year's board and staff retreat. Steve committed to coming up with a plan and a date.

**Adjournment** The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.