

*Friends of Sausal Creek  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 10, 2016, 7-9 p.m.  
Park Blvd. Presbyterian Church  
4101 Park Blvd., Oakland, CA 94602*

*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** Paul Frank, Helen McKinley, Dee Rosario, Richard Kauffman, Carl Kohnert, Bob Roat, Barbara Goldenberg, Eleanor Dunn, Richelle Jacobs

**Absent** Harry Schrauth, Steve Ritchie, Rob Leidy, Mark Rauzon, Sean Welch

**Staff Present** Kimra McAfee, Executive Director; Daniella Cazares, Water Resources Intern from CSU-East Bay

**Guests** Jerry Heverly; Mark Tompkins, *Intelligent Ecosystems Institute*

**Board Involvement and Announcements**

**Board and Staff Retreat** – Sunday, Feb. 21, 9:00 - 1:00, at the home of Barbara Goldenberg

**Member Meeting** - Wednesday, March 16, 7:00, Dimond Library. Holly Alonso, *Bread and Tortillas, Frock Coats and Ponchos: Mapping Culture on--and in--our Bodies*

**Master Calendar for 2016**

For *Earth Day*, April 23<sup>rd</sup>; and *Creek To Bay Day*, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Michelle will need help with tool pick-up and organization the weeks before and after.

May 3<sup>rd</sup>, *East Bay Gives*.

July 17<sup>th</sup> picnic in Dimond Park to celebrate completion of the project and FOOSC's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Our plant sale will take place on Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

FOOSC's end of year appeal letter signing is scheduled for November 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Board Meeting Refreshments Sign-Up Sheet** was passed around.

**Remarks from the Vice President and Background Checks Discussion**

The Steering Committee recommended, and the board concurred, that for now background checks will be done on staff only. Kimra suggested we provide formalized written policies to hand out to volunteers who are serving as field trip docents, crew leaders, and site leaders.

**Minutes and Commitments Review** We agreed at the last board meeting to review the volunteer accident insurance options via email. Sean and Kimra are still working on the options.

The Minutes from the Board Meeting on December 9, 2015, were unanimously approved.

### **Signatories on FOSC Accounts**

**Community Bank of the Bay Signatories:** Eleanor Dunn, Barbara Goldenberg, Carl Kohnert, Mark Rauzon

**Capital One Signatories:** Carl Kohnert, Helen McKinley

**Vanguard Accounts Signatories:** Barbara Goldenberg, Carl Kohnert

### **Financial Report**

- Comments were solicited on the Draft Tax Return.
- Project Timeline and Cash Flow Chart: Kimra reported on our operating reserve fund. The fall cash flow numbers do not reflect the cost of an Educational Assistant.
- Carl reported on the For the Future Fund.
- Kimra reported that the End of Year 2015 appeal was more successful than last year's, with most of the difference coming from the general public.
- Kimra discussed the Purchase Order from the City for plants for Sausal Creek volunteer-led sites.

**Board Member Briefing:** Mark Tompkins, representing *Intelligent Ecosystems Institute* (IEI), spoke to the Board about Berkeley's Thousand Oaks School program and a potential FOSC partnership. The Board listened with an eye to the possibility of receiving funding towards our goals for expanding our environmental education program. The program potentially could bring underserved students out into nature. IEI's mission is to bring best data technologies to water ecosystems, teaching the next generation to use them. There was Board consensus that investigation of the possibility of this partnership should continue.

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

#### **Corrections:**

1. The field trip visit by Clorox Company Foundation and East Bay Community Foundation is being rescheduled.
2. Approximately 50% of the planting for the Dimond Park project is complete.

**Staff Report** Kimra announced that FOSC's two Facebook pages have been successfully merged into a single page.

Kimra was pleased that the local Orienteering Event leader phoned to determine where our sensitive areas are, in advance of their 125-person event in November. She forwarded a Sensitive Sites in Joaquin Miller Park map to him.

Kimra informed the Board that the city is in the process of hiring a new Director of Parks & Rec.

Soil Sampling around the pallid manzanitas is going forward. Chabot will cover 1/3 of the cost.

New pot-washing procedures are now being put in place at the nursery.

Kimra passed around the new dog-on-leash fliers. There will be a Neighborhood Crime Prevention Council (NCPC) meeting on Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at the Dimond Library. One of the focus areas being considered for the council's coming year is enforcement of the leash law.

**Round Robin or Reflections** - Kimra asked the Board to share thoughts and reflections.

Paul and Bob, with others chiming in, expressed enthusiasm at the Board's reception to the possibility of a partnership with IEI.

Kimra appreciated Michelle for posting a sign in the demonstration garden about the work in progress. Michael Thilgen has been doing quite a bit of work to spruce up the garden for the May 1st garden tours.

Dee appreciated Michelle's partnerships with buildOn and Earth Team. "I'm getting kids coming to my trail days, and the trails are looking good! What's more, people are noticing!" Dee will work with Michelle to get a sign.

Richelle energetically touted and invited participation in Trash Out (of the creek) on Feb. 14 at 10:00.

**Adjournment:** 8:43 pm