

Friends of Sausal Creek Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, June 11, 2014, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Park Blvd. Presbyterian Church
4101 Park Blvd., 3rd Floor, Oakland

Present: Steve Ritchie, Barbara Goldenberg, Mark Rauzon, Dee Rosario, Carl Kohnert, Eleanor Dunn, Richelle Jacobs, Richard Kauffman, Sean Welsh, Kimra McAfee, Executive Director.

Absent: Rob Leidy, Bob Roat, Harry Schrauth, Paul Frank, Helen McKinley

Guests: Melissa Reyes, Genesta Zarehbin, Karen Paulsell

Come to Order

April 9 Board Meeting Minutes were approved with minor edits.

Special Reports

Melissa Reyes presented on *I Am Sausal Creek*, her illustrated children's picture book. Suggestions were made to her about ways she might get her book funded. We gave our hearty (non-financial) endorsement.

Committee Reports

Fundraising/Endowment

Sean, Richard, and Barbara were re-elected to the endowment committee for another two years.

Mid-Year Appeal: Enthusiastic thanks were given to Richard for drafting an excellent appeal letter.

Nursery Committee

Nursery Security: On May 29, a madrone tree and eight plants were stolen from the nursery. Michelle filed a police report. The board discussed nursery security options.

Nursery Capacity and Shade Needs: The Sausal Creek Dimond Park restoration project plants will be kept in the nursery another year. We therefore do not have enough shade space to grow all of the

plants needed for the Prop. 84 USRP project, or for our plant sale in 2015. Michelle will reconfigure the current space to squeeze in eight more benches. The nursery committee will be meeting to discuss our long-term growing capacity needs and whether a permanent shade structure expansion is needed.

Nursery Wetland: Rob, Kimra, and Michelle met with the executive director from *Save the Frogs* and the wetland ecologist. They identified two potential wetland sites on the nursery grounds. We are finding out what the city approval process will entail. Details can be seen on *Savethefrogs.org*. We will be responsible for maintaining these wetlands.

Wildlife Corridors: The board voted to purchase two wildlife observation cameras. Mark wondered whether there might be a grant which would allow us to purchase more. Dee will check to see whether there are some *East Bay Puma Project* cameras already in the watershed.

Restoration Committee

Follow-Up from to the Watershed Plan Presentation: Kimra would like action items as follow-up to Paul's presentation at the April meeting.

Exercise: Train Your Board (and everyone else) to Ask Barbara ran the board through exercises designed to help clarify our thinking and conceptualize how to talk to people about FOSC.

Executive Director's Report

Project Timeline and Cash Flow Chart: **Hillside Gardeners of Montclair** granted FOSC \$1000 for our summer education intern. **Prop 84 Urban Streams Restoration Program:** The engineering consultant is working on the base maps for the project. **Thomas J. Long Foundation** notified FOSC that they have approved our \$10,000 grant for general operating support for the fiscal year ending 6/30/15. Because the foundation is winding down, this will likely be the last opportunity for a general operating support grant. Helene Moore of Joaquin Miller Elementary School submitted an **Ocean Guardian** grant that included funding for FOSC to work with one

second grade class next school year. The program is modeled on this year's *Ocean Guardian* program, but because of FOSC's limited staff capacity, we would work with only one class instead of all three second grade classes.

Staff Laptops: Kimra continues to work on purchasing new laptops for herself and Michelle.

PG&E Coordination: Kimra, Michelle, Kathleen Harris, and Beth Wurzburg met with a PG&E senior vegetation manager to discuss the clearing done in February and March under the transmission lines above the Bridgeview Trail. He made arrangements for Kimra to be notified before future annual inspections, and provided us with an approved landscaping list. We are exploring funding options for re-vegetating this steep area.

Summer Program Update: Paid intern Alex Carter will start work on Friday. We currently have eight high school students for the summer program.

Volunteer Appreciation: The board discussed various ways to honor our wonderful volunteers.

Listserv as Outreach Tool: Kimra encouraged the board to help with FOSC outreach via the listserv by posting newsy items.

Tee-Shirt Design Contest Update: Kimra updated the board on the new youth member tee-shirt.

July-August Newsletter : The deadline for entries is July 1.

Staff Vacations: Kimra will be on vacation June 24 - July 5, and July 27 - August 2. Michelle will be on vacation June 28 - 30, and July 3 - 6. Board members were asked to respond promptly to listserv posts requiring attention when Kimra and Michelle are away.

July 16 Meet & Greet: All board members who are in town were asked please to attend this potluck in Beaconsfield Canyon. As always, carpooling was encouraged.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

