

**FOSC BOARD MEETING MINUTES ~ April 10, 2013**  
**Park Blvd Presbyterian Church**

Present: Sean Welch, Rob Leidy, Helen McKinley, Mark Rauzon, Barbara Goldenberg, Richelle Jacobs, Harry Schrauth, Carl Kohnert, Richard Kauffman, Bob Roat, Eleanor Dunn, then Steve Ritchie. Absent: Paul Frank.

Staff Present: Kimra McAfee

Guest: Karen Paulsell

**~ CALL TO ORDER**

A Closed Session meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. Steve Ritchie was unanimously voted in as new Board member. The Closed Session was immediately adjourned.

The open meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Steve Ritchie was welcomed in.

**~ APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2-13-13**

Minutes were approved unanimously.

**~ COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Fundraising/Endowment:** Richard reported on the research into costs for the Oakland Museum gala we had envisioned; the committee felt that the costs for the space and catering were too high for the return we were looking for. The fundraising committee recommends putting our focus on the mid-year appeal instead. Richard also reported the status of our explorations into building up to a capital campaign for the endowment fund. His consultations with Greg Lasonde indicate that we need to broaden our base of individual donors. A conversation about switching to paid membership ensued, and the fundraising committee is continuing to consider strategies for this. They will present background and a recommendation to the Board at the June meeting. Meanwhile, he continues to work on the "case statement," a document telling people who we are, what we do, and what our endowment is about. Richard talked about tiered memberships. Barbara mentioned memorial and celebratory gifts. Kimra asked for a volunteer to do outreach to senior communities. Mark volunteered.

**Nursery:** Barbara enlisted Bob's help in picking up a nursery cart in Redding. Brenna will manage the nursery until a permanent manager is hired. Kimra expressed concern about the irrigation system, and the need for expertise in troubleshooting and maintenance.

**Restoration:** Kimra reported Megan's suggestion for organizing the

work around each crew leader's site. We need to wait for staffing to settle and grants to come in.

## ~ SPECIAL REPORTS

**WPAD (Wildfire Prevention Assessment District Renewal):** There was a lengthy discussion about the request for endorsing the renewal of WPAD which expires on June 14. No decisions were made, but Kimra will follow up with further discussion with Sue Piper, keeping Barbara in the loop.

## ~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

**Earth Day Sign-Up Sheet:** Crew leaders are needed at Dimond Park.

**Summer Programming:** Is fully funded. Do we want the same staffing scenario as last summer, or to use funding for staffing in the fall? Kimra envisions a paid intern 12 hrs a week who is nursery or field focused.

Kimra expressed concern about there being only one person out there. Mark and Barbara spoke about whom they might talk with to help this situation.

Sean urged that we calendar programming coming back to the Board.

**Project Timeline and Cash Flow Chart:** Cash flow and pending grants were reviewed.

**May-June Newsletter:** Kimra welcomes input. Mark and Karen volunteered to help.

**Upcoming Events:** Sudden Oak Death talk; crew leader training on May 11 led by Kathleen and Beth; trash removal on Sunday, May 19. Kimra said we need watershed surveyors.

## ~ PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Board Skills Chart was passed around.

**Strategic Planning:** As follow up to the retreat, and considering our goals for having significant impact in the Sausal Creek watershed, finding better ways to sustain those goals with a stable financial footing becomes our strategic imperative. Let's think big picture about getting cash flow: e.g. from last year, treating the plant sale as an opportunity to put fundraising up front. Kimra said it's about bringing all Board Members on board with planning how to achieve a shift from 80% grants/20% individual donations to the opposite. She suggested ways that might come about.

Helen will ask for input from all Board Members for Kimra's performance review. She'll send out some questions beforehand to focus discussion in closed session at the next meeting. The review will be scheduled subsequent to the

meeting.

Richard reported on his meeting with Susan Schwartz about the speaker series collaboration with *Close to Home*. He outlined the pros and cons. Kimra suggested she could implement a new section in our newsletter to highlight their speaker events.

~ **ADJOURNMENT**

The open meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m., followed by a closed session to discuss holding a competitive solicitation for a permanent restoration coordinator to replace Megan, who has moved on to another job.