

**Friends of Sausal Creek
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 7:00 p.m.
Richelle Jacobs' house**

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 Richelle Jacobs, Barry Stenger, Beth Keer, Eleanor Dunn, Russ Huddleston, Hattie Bradshaw (Student Board Member), Amba Beattie (Student Board Member)

Absent Harry Schrauth (Board Member Emeritus), Steve Ritchie, Mark Rauzon (Board Member Emeritus), Sean Welch, Tim Vendlinski, Rob Leidy

Staff Present Lisa Giordano, Executive Director

Guests Kristy Brady, FOSC volunteer; Maria Katticaran, water advocate & FOSC volunteer

Board Involvement

- Ella Matsuda, Restoration and Nursery Manager, will be taking a leave of absence this summer. Workday coverage by Board members during her absence was sought.

Remarks from the President, Beth Keer

- Beth welcomed our guests and had them introduce themselves.

Board Member Briefing & Discussion

The Joaquin Miller Park Resolution and Resource Conservation Area (RCA) proposal

- Oakland City Council members Ramachandran, Kalb, and Fortunato Bas have expressed support for both the Resolution and the RCA proposal. The goal is to offer an informational tour of Fern Ravine to all Councilmembers.

Lower Watershed Feasibility Study

- Wood Park will be the next restoration site. We will apply for funding in 2025, which will allow time for planning to implement climate adaptation and resilience measures, and to prioritize

environmental justice. After that, the focus will turn to Palo Seco and Fern Ravine for daylighting.

Website/Design

- Lisa showed the Board what has been accomplished so far. The plan is to hire someone to do graphic design work and bring it to completion.

Strategic Plan

- A question was raised whether the Board needed officially to approve a strategic plan. Eleanor explained that this was not included in the bylaws when they were written. Instead, every year the Board will determine its current priorities.

Education & Outreach Coordinator position

- We have three applicants thus far. The submission deadline is June 30, 2023. Lisa will share a folder with the Board, including all applications for review.

Plant Sale

- We have submitted a request to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission (PRAC) for an October 28, 2023, plant sale date. The proposal will be reviewed at PRAC's July meeting. Ella has suggested that we sell gift cards at this year's plant sale. Staff will look into whether this is legal, given our permit.

Financial Report, Lisa Giordano

- Lisa went over the Project Timeline and Cash Flow Chart with the Board. She also reported on grant applications in progress and on the horizon.
- The 2023-2024 Proposed Budget was presented by Lisa, and was then discussed by the Board. Some concerns were expressed about the format. Most Board members would prefer to see the proposed budget presented as one column, along with two others: a) Current year's budget b) Projection over the next twelve months.
- A vote was taken to approve the FYE 2024 budget. Barry moved that we approve the budget as presented, with the proviso that we adjust it at the August meeting. Eleanor seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.

Fundraising Updates, Rainmaker Report, Barry Stenger

Mid-Year Appeal

- Barry reported that an attractive postcard photo was included with each appeal letter, all of which were mailed on June 13. He encouraged the Board to make their annual donations now rather than at the end of the year.

Corporate Donors

- Lisa asked Barry if he would set up a meeting with the Blue Shield volunteers, who are scheduled to come out this Friday. Eleanor encouraged us to reach out to places like St. Paul's Towers and The Altenheim with similar appeals.

Individual Donors

- Barry suggested we do more analysis of our current donors' giving patterns, and develop strategies to attract new donors.

Endowment

- Barry reported on the current balance of the *Fund for the Future* Endowment and suggested that focused appeals will be the best way to grow the endowment.

Minutes

- Bimonthly Board meeting Minutes need to be streamlined. Change from a narrative to a bullet point format was decided on.
- A separate page will be made denoting all Amendments to the Minutes.
- Once the Amendments have been incorporated, the secretary will sign the updated document and send the revised Minutes to Board members in both Word and PDF formats.
- Beth moved that the April 12, 2023 Minutes be approved with the specified amendments. Barry seconded the motion, which was then unanimously approved.

Staff Report, Lisa Giordano

- Lisa urged Board members to sign up for committees.
- Lisa plans to go paperless for the BOD meetings.
- Beth would like us to purchase a portable projector.

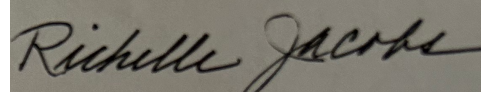
Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Next board meeting

- August 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m. in the Iona Room at Park Blvd Presbyterian Church.

Respectfully submitted,
August 9, 2023

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richelle Jacobs".