

Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting Meeting Summary

7:00 PM on Monday, July 28, 2008
Open Space Authority Administration Office

Attendees:

Citizen Advisory Committee Members:

Name	Represent	Present	Absent
Susan McKuhen	District 1	√	-
Vacant	District 2	-	-
Jan Hintermeister	District 3	√	-
Eric Carruthers	District 4	√	-
Chris Kangas	District 5	√	-
Yacanex Posadas	District 6	√	-
Vacant	District 7	-	-
Vacant	Agriculture	-	-
Mandy McClellan	Business	√	-
Vacant	Civic Organizations	-	-
Daniel J. Kenney	Development Community	√	-
Gloria Dirkmaat	Education	√	-
David Poeschel	Environmental	√	-
Son Cheong (C.K.) Kuan	Labor	√	-
Dorsey Moore	Parks	√	-
Kitty Monahan	Trails	√	-
	Totals	12	0

Other Attendees:

Board Liaison Present:

The Honorable **Dr. Kulwant Gill** – Director, District Seven

The Honorable **Garnetta Annable** – Director, District Four

Staff Present: Rachel Santos

Public Present: none

Action Items:

Task	Lead	Due Date	✓
From 7/28/08 Meeting:			
1. Discuss Recommendations from Bay Area Agricultural Land Conservation Agencies Program Study	Dave Poeschel	August 25, 2008	
2. CK to do Member share at next meeting	Son Cheong (C.K.) Kuan	August 25, 2008	

1. **Call to Order** – Dorsey Moore, Chairperson
 - Approved excused absences – none
 - Introduction of Guests – Dr. Kulwant Gill, Garnetta Annable and Rachel Santos
2. **Public Presentations for Items not Listed on the Agenda (Limit: 3 minutes)**
No public presentations were made.
3. **Approval of the Meeting Summary of Previous Meeting**
 - Motion: Eric Second: Dan Minutes: approved with clarification on 8a that comment by CK was directed to Board not CAC
4. **Member Presentation – David Poeschel**
 - Born in Sacramento CA
 - As child he lived by an undeveloped lot with a drainage ditch which he was allowed to play in as a child with his siblings. He was a great hunter and rescuer of lizards, snakes and toads.
 - Frequently saved stranded pets from brother's care.

- Early in life David got an interest in wildlife and it became the inspiration to save open space for children.
- David recalled how when his father grew up in Chico he could catch 20 good-sized fish in an hour at a nearby reservoir and David could only catch 10 fish in a day when he was a child. Today you are fortunate to catch one or two very small fish in a day.
- His experiences have taught him it is important to protect what is there and it is important to keep moving forward
- David had followed OSA since late 80's and 90's and helped with some of the early fund raising (which unfortunately was not successful). He followed the organization and had gone to public hearings and seen some victories and some losses.
- Representative service on: Sierra Club – political committee and they determined who the club should endorse. Participated since early 80's
- Advice for members: It is worth trying things because you can have little successes where not expected. He shared the story of the bird boxes he made for bluebirds and placed around. It was discouraging to see them vandalized. He eventually got tired of the project and turned it over to Lee Pauser. He now sees the bird boxes everywhere and noted that where there used to be predominately starling populations, he is now seeing increased numbers of bluebirds. Sometimes it helps to speak up on issues because we can be the voice for other people who may otherwise be silent and our voice gives them the confidence to use their own voice on issues.

5. Reports

- A. Board Liaison Report –
 - Garnetta Annable-
 1. The Board went through OSA's proposed work plan for FY2008-09 line by line. The CAC will be provided with copies of the work plan when finalized. Suggested that CAC go through the work plan at our next meeting.
 2. Important for CAC to be involved in plans as more activities are being planned on lands not previously open (Doan Ranch, Palassou Ridge, Furtado)
 3. The discussion on allowing dogs at Rancho Canada property is on hold pending a decision by Parks and Recreation to open up Calero to dogs
 - Dr. Gill
 1. OSA needs to continue the efforts to educate the communities
 2. Need to find ways to get benefits of OSA lands out to public
 3. Patrick and CAC can help with Outreach Program and breathe life back into it.
 4. On the second Tuesday he is going to the Evergreen Community Meeting with Patrick to present a program on the OSA.

B. Authority Staff Report - none

C. Members –

1. CK passed around a good article "Measuring Up: Park District Has Bond Memories of 1988" distributed by the League of Women Voters. He also shared a San Jose Mercury News article on local gardens "Growing a Community".
2. Jan shared his experience in the Sierras where he attended a San Francisco State Sierra Camp and natural history classes. He attended a section on Butterflies. The program is educational and provides tent/dorm-style accommodations.
3. Eric had several items he shared:
 - a. Aug 12th the Water District will host a community meeting on a proposal to develop the Laguna Seca wetlands. He will send out an email and we can check the website
 - b. Morgan Hill is working on the land mitigation plan. They are preparing the Environmental Impact Report and expect it to be delivered in October
 - c. Slow Food International is dedicated to the preservation of locally grown foods. It started in Italy and now is a world-wide organization. They are having their international conference in San Francisco on Labor Day weekend. They have a great website and they are planning dinners that are expensive but "breathtaking".

- d. City of San Jose has contracted with local farmers to provide regionally grown fresh produce
 - e. Kaiser's 19 hospitals use locally grown produce and have set up farmer's markets
 - f. Healthy Silicon Valley has identified locally grown food as part of its strategic plan for the war on diabetes and will support community gardens, school gardens and the preservation of Santa Clara farmlands.
4. Dorsey -
- The OSA Board approved the re-appointment of CAC members Susan, Kitty, Dan, Eric, Gloria and Jan for another 2 years.

6. Unfinished Business

- Bay Area Agricultural Land Conservation Agencies Program – Publication Update – Dorsey Moore
 - PDF version is available
 - He will email us copies
 - Rachel will find out if it is on the OSA website. The CAC would like it posted there.
- Bay Area Agricultural Land Conservation Agencies Program – Recommendation Updates from Subcommittee meeting that was held July 1, 2008 - David Poeschel
 - Removed item where asked Board to allocate funding because it was redundant.
 - Take another month or two and more subcommittee meetings to finish recommendations.
 - Basically made some minor word changes.
 - Other organizations were surveyed to see how they defined “agriculture”
 - Eric handed out his recommended language. He suggested that his three paragraphs be substituted for the current definition in the document because it was a more generalized overview. He passed around a handout that he had emailed.
 - Recommended that item 5 in section one be changed
 - Under Section 2, Garnetta asked if needed to have “single crop commodities” language and Eric clarified that in the past “single crop” referred to the large scale for export agriculture and that small farms generally have multiple mixed crops that are general consumed in the local region.
 - CK asked if “small Scale” included community gardens and Eric stated that they did not because community gardens are usually for the purpose of self-consumption and not for sale.
 - David suggested that we may want to visit that issue in the future and Eric responded stating that land used for community gardens in urban areas is a “different kettle of fish”.
 - David thought that it may be an appropriate way for cities to use their 20% and Eric responded that the subcommittee would consider the matter.
 - CK pointed out that there was a small farm with agricultural land along the Lawrence Expressway. He also asked in reference to the Recommendation 2 (page 2, item 2) and asked if we have a land acquisition strategy.
 - Eric responded to CK by stating there was not a specified strategy and there were purchased easements held by Silicon Valley Land Conservancy and there were some hillside grazing lands.
 - Dorsey stated that the subcommittee will review CK's suggestion.
 - Garnetta suggested the wording not be “allocate” but “to pursue funds” and that we need to be looking ahead to building a foundation.
 - David recommended removing “allocate”
 - Eric stated the subcommittee would consider
- Supreme Court Finding Update by Garnetta
 - Garnetta said the Board decided not to file for reconsideration and that the OSA was sued by taxpayers to refund the \$56 million they had collected. There is a protest period and the Supreme Court referred back to the Appellate Court to go back to the Superior Court in next 60 days. OSA counsel will meet with the taxpayer counsel to see if there is any room for discussion.

- Dorsey thanked those who worked the Benefit Assessment District #2 litigation. He noted there are two outstanding issues: 1. payback and 2. new revenue model. He requested that the Board keep the CAC in the know and tell us how we can be of service in the revenue models in future for the long term sustainability of OSA.
- Agreed to Table Item 7B: 20% Funding Program Presentation – C.K. (10 minutes)
7. Items for next meeting
- A. Review recommendations from sub committee on Bay Area Agricultural Land Conservation Agencies Program
 - B. Litigation Update
 - C. C.K. – 20% funding presentation
8. Announcements
- A. CAC Members
 - Kitty – October 18th Penitencia Creek Trail event
 - Susan – Peace Choral will perform on Aug 9th at noon ant the Children’s Discovery Museum
 - B. Board Announcements - none
2. **Adjourned** at 8:55 pm
- cc: Garnetta Annable, Boardmember Liaison
Dr. Kulwant (Kalvin) Gill, Boardmember Liaison

Meeting summary by Gloria Dirkmaat