

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF SAUSAL  
CREEK  
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION  
APRIL 13, 2005

**Board Members Present:**

Sheelah Weaver, President, (SW)  
Eric Havel, Vice President, (EH)  
Linda Morse, (LM)  
Kristin Ohlson, (KO)  
Mark Rauzon, (MR)  
Michael Thilgen, (MT)

**Also in Attendance:**

Alisa Shor, Operations Manager, (AS).  
Kristen Hopper, Field Coordinator, (KH).  
Diana Surber, Former Treasurer, (DS)  
Ralph Kanz, Former Board member (RK)

Call to Order 7:13

**Approval of Minutes**— March minutes approved. LM moves to approve, EH seconds. AS recommends minutes be made in a standard format, sent to Jennifer Stanley for web placement, which brought up question – who does the minutes? It was agreed the secretary, not the new hire. Rotates among board members. MR takes minutes. DS corrects spelling of her last name.

**Financial Report**– DS reports on FY05 total income is about \$115,000. Oakland school district has not billed yet. So this will be a poses a cash balance concern because we still need to receive Alameda Co. \$25 K funds, that are paid upon a reimbursement basis. We need to be more fluid as we will start the FY 06 at about \$0 dollars. Incoming grants may float our budget but so far none are committed. A three month gap of 15K may be need to be filled and salaries may need to be adjusted. EH asks Alameda Co. Flood Control District funds core with \$25K. Alameda Co. Clean Water Program funds 20K for 2 years for Env. Ed? FOSC has not been this fiscally challenged before. Still we're doing better than the US Govt- and we'll manage.

**Staffing**—Discussion centers oh giving KH a raise, and new hire's starting salary. KH raise is unanimously approved by FOSC board. Further consideration will be given at annual performance review in January. DS circulates budget scenarios. It is clear from discussion that Board needs to fund raise more or have a back-up plan if unsuccessful. Final salary offer approved unanimously by board.

**Action:** AS to negotiate salary with Sara Marcellino (SM).

**Training-** AS has 15 hrs left to train SM on Apr. 19th. What are SM duties on a percentage basis?

**California Native Plant Society (CNPS) discussion-**KH provides background. CNPS requests to share nursery space. Three people came to examine site. Their plants would be sited in the new sunny growing grounds. CNPS needs to fund-raise by selling plant. Conditional Use Permit (CUP) from City may not allow that money exchange, but FOSC cannot locate actual permit, but it was determined that CUP is good for only one year and needs renewal. So maybe we can renegotiate CUP to allow annual sale. It was pointed out Native's Here Nursery in park also sells plants, so precedent is set. Ralph points out Chabot Space and Science Center is a fund-raising on city land already. It's part of the Harry Edwards legacy of not profiteering from city property. KO seeks CUP and info on exemption, and Martin Materresse suggested KO call Audrey Jones Taylor at City Planning Dept. Calls to her not returned. RK suggests going over her head to her boss. KO suggests both FOSC and CNPS develop MOU for joint useage. RK says CNPS would be a plus to FOSC and fund-raising boon. MT says CNPS is a small group with not a lot of fund-raising potential. KH says not until Fall '05 would CNPS move be necessary, so we have more time to explore options. KO suggests CNPS attend FOSC meeting to advocate position with FOSC.

**Action:** KH will ask CNPS to write a letter of intent to FOSC for us to see if it's a good fit, what facilities they need, in what time frame, etc. KO will re-approach city again with RK's help.

**Earth Day Celebration in Sausal Creek-**LM, EH organizing event.

Oakland Council members Ignacio de la Fuente may arrive and work, Jean Quan will visit nursery. SW will address gathering, ask for funds, make "thermometer" of funds signage. AS says water coolers will be provided, only 50 bottles of water. MR to get food for park workers, Quan's office to provide pizza for nursery workers. EH suggests Volunteer membership meeting at May's general meeting. KH reports Student Conservation Assoc. making a french drain at nursery on Earth day in sunny growing grounds; making a new compost site; making a pot-washing site, and cover sunny growing grounds with weed-block fabric. MT says to hold off on that for now.

**World Environment Day Planning-**

**Action:** MR to contact about getting a booth for the conference. Done on 4/18/05.

**Fund Raising** - Protocols established to clear grant writing vetted by fund-raising committee (FR). Sample protocol circulated to board, for approval at May meeting. Grant submissions will be vetted every two weeks either by board of Fund Raising committee. Submitted grants:

SF Bay Fund or \$35K for watershed assessment with Laurel Marcus and Associates.

Patagonia for \$8K due April 30.

Dreyer's Ice Cream for 15K for Env. Ed. (to be decided by May 11 with a 2 out of 3 chances of getting this one.)

**Business Plan-** almost ready, needs work until April 20, then circulated for Board review, due back May 1 to LM. Submit to Dick Spees by May 10.

**Board Development-** Harry Schrauth may be time to re-approach him, sponsor LM. Karen Garrison will attend next meeting- sponsor MR

**Membership Meeting-** Raptor talk planned by Simone Whitecloud for April. Also this is an opportunity to get Earth Day leaders. EH will chair May meeting. May Meeting with Susan Schwartz, Friends of 5 Creeks will talk. New Volunteers oriented. June Meeting- Possible speaker Doug Johnston, husband of new coordinator. Chaired by ?? July- no meeting.

**Other News-**LM offered FOOSC a used computer that we cannot use or house. LM submits letter of resignation. Read by SW. Regretfully accepted.  
Board adjourns around 10:00PM

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Mark Rauzon, Board Member