

FOSC Board Meeting Minutes – Feb 11, '06 – Mark Rauzon's house

Attending: Mark Rauzon, Sara Marcellano, Sheelah Weaver, Kristin Olsen, Bill Best, Eleanor Dunn, Sue Morgan, Sue Piper, Eric Havel, Kristen Hopper, Harry Schrauth, Michael Thilgen, Pat Bacchetti, Jean Quan

December minutes approved, January minutes approved

Friends of Suaro National Park expressed interest in FOSC

Current Fundraising efforts

Grants:

1. PG&E – asked for \$3K on line to fund 10th Anniversary Party; will know if awarded in a few months.
2. Bella Vista – asked for \$20K; this grant is to address drainage, not build trails; site visit arranged at Redwood site with Annie Yates on 2/21; Kristen, Sara & Eric to host
3. Goldman Fund – Michael wrote letter of interest, needs to know what the board wants to fund; Goldman will not fund operations
4. Watershed Project – due in March, what is appropriate? We are talking to Wendy, will look at their website in March for their grant cycle; \$2-5K possible in technical support (not \$); technical support to improve our fundraising?
5. 5 Star – Kristen emailed an inquiry, no response; labor donated, not \$
6. East Bay Fund – Sue will contact
7. Alameda Clean Water – Sheelah submitted \$2.5K community steward grant request for map file prep/printing/creation of and placement in map boxes in the watershed
8. Regional Water Quality Board – Kristen researching; \$180K for 2 year grant: Loral Marcus hydrology study. FOSC would get 15-30% of this for overhead plus needed hydrology assessment. Sara concerned that Kristen's paid staff time will not be adequately compensated
9. US Fish & Wildlife – they have funded us for a few years, we should submit request for funds for new projects. Mazanita management? Ed outreach? Display at Chabot to honor important geography, manzanitas? Ask for \$10K? Rick will let us know what kinds of projects they would fund
10. East Bay Bike Coalition – want to improve use of bike trail, local property owner offers to sign easement on driveway to facilitate trail access
Issue at Redwood site noted – storm water erosion from Leimert, loosing redwood sorrel, need to stabilize hill, need to get bikes off switch back paths
Sue notes J Miller Park trail meeting to improve trails, Karen Paulsell attends these meetings, decisions taken will affect Sausal Creek trails, only 3 or 4 rangers to patrol all the J Miller Park trails
11. Stoney Fields Farms – Sue asked for \$17K for 4/6-6/7; some to cover \$15K shortfall in this year's ed program funding. Sue notes that program shortfall may be smaller ... less needed for bus fares because most of the classes are from Glenview Elementary (walking distance), not using \$1K allocated for curriculum,

not pay \$2.4K FOSC overhead portion for Kirsten's paid staff time. Sara asked for a revised budget

12. Valley fund – nothing submitted yet.

Jean Quan arrives; topic changes to her proposal for a watershed council, with FOSC as the fiscal management agency

Jean Quan: intention is short term \$ help for FOSC, concerned we will lose momentum if we cut outreach, need capital to hire grant writers, council members cannot give much direct \$, paygo funds used to support grass roots efforts.

Idea- Oakmore Park Blvd beautification – use \$15K, get volunteers to clear ivy, \$ for nursery, \$ for Karen to map oaks, create educational material

Wants to promote legislation to preserve oaks

\$1 million coming from PG&E instead of paying some taxes – will be divided among council members favorite groups – \$25 K from these funds could be used to fund watershed council (like Urban Creeks Council) – FOSC gets a % as fiscal agent, buys time to apply for more stable grants

Friends of Parks and Rec alternative fiscal agent

Idea- Sue Piper, apply for \$15K to remove ivy, protect oaks in Diamond Park – use Jean's paygo, build on interest generated by Champagne Oak, protect oaks in demo garden and canyon

Mark: concerned about FOSC identity, could be swamped by watershed council

Jean/Sue: new agency more like J Miller Park working group with FOSC as lead agency, leverage other programs; lower watershed issues mostly flood control

Question- who else is interested in the proposed watershed council? No one else yet approached

Question – potential funding for year 2? Sue Piper responded that we could apply for bigger grants based on the good work of year 1, agencies in watershed council could get continued admin funds

Eric: Sue, how do you see your role? Sue: to get the council started, then let it go independent

Agreed that council \$ could go to Sue Piper, a public relations consultant

Pat: what is no second year funding?

Eric: this could overwhelm FOSC, or be a way to expand, contact could be useful even if council did not continue

Mark: what is the work of the fiscal agent? 10% of a max of \$100k – max \$10K to manage money, staff – enough?

2 proposals for FOSC to address:

Oak protection in park and canyon – paygo \$, FOSC to coordinate

Watershed Council – FOSC fiscal agent, PG&E \$ year one, Sue Piper as coordinator (paid); FOSC could get higher agent % if suggested

Jean & Sue leave, so does Sheelah, Mark takes rest of notes, below is a transcription:

General response to Council proposal:

Too big, too vague, FOSC could be involved but not lead, could get FOSC more \$, exec director, expand impact in watershed, could swamp organization, plan built around

creating staff time for Sue P., opportunity to work closely with her, what about year 2?
How is this watershed council different from what FOSC already does?

Resolution:

Write letter thanking them for attendance, proposals, interest and support

Watershed Council too much for us to take on now, recovering from last year's financial crisis – motion passed to send letter

Oak protection project – FOSC will take on

Other meeting notes:

Oak trees

Boy scout

Head Royce

Karen – mapping

Brochure, website, creek to bay day, earth day, cost of placards, maps,

Bishop O'Dowd

New on web site: ability to donate, info on how to volunteer

Watershed grant for website?

Karen to map oak trees

Mark to write/ask for \$15K for flyers

Plant Sale:

Watershed group will give us rights to Sausal Creek guide – design in pagemaker

Sheelah Weaver 3/31/06