

January 13, 2010 – Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of the Friends of Sausal Creek, a California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Attending Board Members: *Pat Bacchetti, Kristin Ohlson, Paul Frank, Harry Schrauth, Eddie Dunbar, Richard Kauffman, Eleanor Dunn, Helen McKinley*

Staff: *Kimra McAfee*

Guests: *Sean Welch, Rob Leidy*

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Pat Bacchetti at 7pm.

Rob Leidy – Trout in Sausal Creek, Background and Monitoring Options (from non-invasive to more invasive): (A) Anecdotal reports, (B) Bankside or instream transits that will collect data on size classes for set reaches; (C) Snorkeling transits that can collect more detail and parameters; (D) Seining and dip netting; and (E) Electrofishing. Rob noted the habitat fragmentation issues (Barry Place, El Centro, Palo Seco) that pose vulnerabilities due to isolation, and the habitat improvement and maintenance projects which might include enhancement of structural variability (e.g., pools throughout the reaches) that would be positive for fish. A conservation tool that would be interesting to explore would be the re-introduction of other native fishes. Historically, Rainbow Trout do not occur alone and increasing ecosystem diversity would be an improvement. Human and dog use, sediment loading issues, and other obstacles to supporting healthy fish habitat were discussed.

Minutes – December 2009 minutes were approved with minor edits.

Board Policies – A few new policies and procedures are relevant this year to non-profit organizations under the federal IRS statutes, and the Board discussed the prepared drafts of these: (1) Conflict of Interest, (2) Document Management, and (3) Whistleblower Policies. Harry Schrauth moved and Jill Sunahara seconded a Board resolution to adopt the three policies as revised during discussion. The resolution passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

The board concurred that the re-established and newly created committees will be Advisory Committees as defined in FOSC's bylaws.

Education Com – Eddie Dunbar briefly discussed ideas and materials he has been developing with Megan and other interested participants with a focus on developing more attention on aquatic/riparian species. He showed examples of the materials with images: “field cards” and larger posters for use by kids demonstrating examples of insects, amphibians, plants, and birds.

He also mentioned the need to conduct data analysis on ten years worth of aquatic insect data.

Fundraising Committee – the following items were noted and/or discussed: (1) Thank yous for the annual appeal donations, (2) Oakland Fund for Children and Youth grant application, (3) Five Star grant application, (4) Foundation Directory Online training, (5) Fundraising needs.

Nursery Committee – (1) The new electrical components for irrigation are slated to go in this month. (2) Megan has planned to attend an irrigation course this winter/spring.

Restoration Committee – Member meeting will be the Restoration Committee meeting this month (January 20, 2010).

ED Report – the following reports were presented and discussed: (A) Financials; (B) Kimra has suggested hiring bookkeeping assistance for reconciliation and other expertise during the next year ; (C) Field Staff Report: (i) Give a Day, Get a Disney Day has had a huge response; (ii) Tool transport needs identified and will be referred to the Nursery Committee (D)February-March 2010 Newsletter – (i) for the digital version we will go to color, (ii) it was suggested that we include a financial summary, (iii) Jill suggested that we include some of the Rob Leidy information on fish in the next newsletter; (F) FOSC will take over our website hosting account payment from Jennifer Stanley; (G) Regional Board Grant Update indicates that the work is very close to being completed; (H) An update regarding the work in Beaconsfield was summarized by Richard K.; (G) Upcoming Events: (i) Workday with the SF Estuary Partnership, (ii) Alameda County Alameda County Watershed Forum field trip to FOSC site on March 2, 2010,, and (iii) the 40th anniversary of Earth Day is April 17th, 2010.

Closed Session – Sean Welch was voted on as a Board Member unanimously.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:08. The next meeting will be held February 10, 2010, 7pm, Presbyterian Church, 4104 Park Blvd.