

March 12, 2008 – Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting of the Friends of Sausal Creek, a California Non-Profit Public Benefit Corporation

Attending Board Members: Mark Rauzon, Kristin Ohlson, Kristen Hopper, Pat Bacchetti, Helen McKinley, Eleanor Dunn, Richard Kauffman

Staff: Kathren Murrell Stevenson, Molly Bolt

Guests: Karl Kohnert, Jane Wardani,

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:07 by President Mark Rauzon.

Approval of Minutes – Minutes were accepted with minor edits.

Board Retreat – The group discussed the goals of the retreat, and also determined to delay the Retreat until May 18th. There will be a follow-up email discussion of whether or not to engage a facilitator.

Staff Reports –

- A. Restoration – Katherine Murrell Stevenson began with a report on the April 19th Earth Day activities and passed around a preliminary project list, requesting volunteers sign up for a number of these activities.

Kathren Stevenson and Molly Bolt had prepared a draft Staff Report that included text on the FoSC vision relative to the Business Plan, major accomplishments from 2005 to the present, and a section commenting on the success of our staff and committee structure. She noted the increases in volunteerism, including at the crew leader level, as well as increased community involvement. A review of the status of the six priority sites was also presented.

- B. Nursery – Molly gave summarized her portion of the draft Staff Report, covering the status of nursery work, noting that propagation is the largest component of the program at present. She reports that there are several student regular interns participating in the nursery activities now. Additionally, she discussed the environmental education accomplishments realized in the nursery in balance with the need to move ahead with production goals. She noted some possibilities for more specific environmental education curriculums for a variety of age groups that could be developed in the future should we choose.

Molly also reported on the needed nursery renovations, some of the in-kind work that is potentially available, the planning work and her continued oversight of this project.

C. Staff Budget Requests – The Draft Staff Report also included a tools needs list for the field programs, as well as other budget needs. Once Sara Marcellino has returned from maternity leave, we can get a better status on our finances in order to prioritize these needs.

Follow Up on Fish Kill Event – Kristen suggested providing some kind of notice to Sausal Creek neighbors regarding the fish kill and include educational information on pollution prevention in the watershed. Kristen Hopper and Richard Kauffman will work on this with assistance from several other Board Members.

Beaconsfield Update – Richard Kauffman gave a report on developments with conceptualizing the goals for Beaconsfield Canyon as an ecological reserve. Developing a Master Plan has been envisioned. The Urban Creeks Council could be involved, as well as FoSC, in terms of sponsorship, grant writing, or facilitating various other supporting efforts.

Sausal Creek Environmental Council – The Board discussed need to clarify and correct any potential confusion about using the “Sausal Creek” name for a different entity. However, possible funding for lower watershed outreach activities that we would support is motivation to foster the relationships with the City. Sara Marcellino will discuss these matters with City representatives in April, but we may need to approach the name confusion issue sooner.

FoSC Endorsement for LLAD – (Landscape and Lighting Assessment District)
The Board tabled the question regarding our sponsorship till the next meeting pending our learning more about the measure.

Prop 84 Update – A motion was passed asserting our willingness to receive funds (\$32,000) from the Coastal Conservancy to fund upgrades and expansion to the Demo Garden in Dimond Park.

Adjourn – Next Meeting – April 9, 2008; Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.