

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF SAUSAL CREEK
A CALIFORNIA NONPROFIT PUBLIC BENEFIT CORPORATION
OCTOBER 13, 2004

Board Members Present:

Linda Morse, President
Diana Surber, Treasurer
Eleanor Dunn
Eric Havel
Mark Rauzon
Michael Thilgen

Also in Attendance: Alisa Shor, Operations Manager, Kristen Hopper, Field Coordinator.

Approval of Minutes—September minutes approved as corrected.

Financial Report—Approximately \$1,100 remains in Kodak grant money. Possibilities for allocation of the money were discussed including a Spanish translation of the FOOSC general brochure, a trail map, and archiving of Elliott Smith's photos. The Kodak grant money requires matching funds and that the project be related to the greenway.

Action: Board approved fundraising for the matching funds required by the Kodak grant, and to allocate this money in total to produce a trail map.

Restoration Committee—Kristen reported that currently plants are being propagated for winter planting, including many plants for the six sites. The Julia Morgan School for Girls is expected to have its work-a-thon this winter and do a large amount of planting.

Herbicide Ordinance—Recently Sue Piper convened a discussion group at City Hall during which the restoration committee gave input on an amendment to the herbicide resolution. Kristen, Mark, and Karen have served as representatives of FOOSC in this matter. Currently, the City of Oakland does not have a comprehensive Integrated Pest Management plan, and it seems that the council is unlikely to pass a simple amendment to the herbicide ordinance. An amendment would not stand as a resolution, rather it may need to be built into a bigger package that would then be funded. Sue Piper will be considering the matter and will present a recommendation for moving forward. If a biologist is hired, that position may fill several gaps that FOOSC has been asking to be filled, but this may be a much more complicated process that does not address the immediate agenda of gaining permission to use moderate herbicides.

Possible Grant Partnership—Girl Scouts of the East Bay is interested in partnering with FOOSC on a grant for stewardship. The grant proposal which is being put together by the GSEB proposes that 2 groups of girls would have an environmental education component at Crissy Field and then come to do nursery propagation and stewardship with FOOSC. The program would fund an independent contractor to be a liaison and to coordinate the troops and nursery work. The proposal does not budget any money for FOOSC program costs, but FOOSC would benefit by having the groups do propagation. Questions remain about provisions and the terms of the commitment, who covers the insurance, etc. Kristen will get more information and Linda will follow up with the GSEB contact.

Action: The Board provisionally accepts partnership opportunity with the Girl Scouts of the East Bay with details to be clarified and final acceptance to be made by the Board president and treasurer.

Manzanita Update—Finding ways to get work done in the fall has been challenging. Two work parties are proposed to begin initial clearing around the plants before the end of the year. A joint Chabot and FOSC work party is proposed for Dec 8th. This could be a workday that could be attended by Chabot staff and City staff. The effort to save the plants needs political support, and swift action is critical to the health of the plants.

Action: The Board provisionally approves a statement by the restoration committee to express that the manzanita site needs to be attended to in a timely manner.

Committee Structure—In an effort to create a stronger link among committees and to strengthen FOSC's fundraising capabilities, the administrative committee has proposed that a member from the restoration committee and education committee also sit on the fundraising committee. Discussion follows with concerns from committee members that there is not enough time or enough members to allow for that. It is also expressed that representation for the committees on the fundraising committee is important to the health of the organization. The education and restoration committees will have discussions at the next meetings.

Fund Development—Funding from the Dean Whitter Foundation has been granted thanks to efforts by Sue Morgan and Sally. An end of year donor appeal will go out at the beginning of December and will include a letter, a copy of the new brochure, and the Dec/Jan newsletter.

Education Committee—The education program is underway and most of the program slots are filled. The agreement between FOSC and Sue Morgan has a few outstanding issues and needs to be finalized.

Board Development—Sheelah Weaver and Eric Havel have agreed to serve as interim officers until the board elections in February. Board members are charged with listing names of people who may be potential board members so they may be contacted and their interest can be gauged. Harry Schrauth may be interested in joining the FOSC board after the spring of next year.

Volunteer Items—A solstice event is to be planned in lieu of a December monthly meeting. It is suggested that feedback be collected from volunteers and members regarding frequency of workdays and workday projects. The marketing of restoration projects and strategies for engaging volunteers is discussed.