



Attachment "A"

***SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
December 12, 2013 MINUTES***

5:11 p.m. Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

Members Present

Laurie Gallian	Gary Wysocky	John Dell'Osso
Jeff Holtzman	Kristin Thigpen	Bill Smith

Members Absent

Dennis Murphy	John Nagle	Don McEnhill	Cary Fargo
Jan McFarland	Sue Conley	Steve Rabinowitsh	Shanti Edwards

Staff Present Bill Keene, General Manager; Kim Batchelder, Associate Conservation Planner; Tom Robinson, Associate Conservation Planner; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Public Attendees Ken Wells

Chair Gallian noted there was not a quorum at this meeting but that the meeting would continue as informational only.

Public Comment

No public comments on items not on agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Gallian noted that without a quorum the Advisory Committee could not approve the October 24, 2013 minutes at this time.

General Manager's Report

- The General Manager announced two new staff members to the District: Alex Roa, coming from the Mid-peninsula Regional Open Space District, was hired as a Planner and will work in the Stewardship and Planning departments at the District. Currently he is working on the East Slope Trail project.

- Kristine Acquino, coming from the Sonoma Land Trust, was hired as a Planner and will work in the Acquisitions department, and is the Matching Grant Program Coordinator.
- The Matching Grant Program cycle will begin in early 2014. A subcommittee was formed from the Advisory Committee members in January 2013. Volunteers from the Committee are Laurie Gallian, Sue Conley, Jeff Holtzman, Bill Smith and Jan McFarland. A member from the District's Fiscal Oversight Commission will also be joining the subcommittee. Proposals will be ready by the end of March. Awards will occur sometime in July 2014. Advisory subcommittee members will start to meet in the spring of 2014.
- The District is taking the Cresta property, phase two, to the Board in early January. Cresta II is part of the Mark West Watershed and is connected to the McCullough property, near the Mark West Lodge. The District received \$5.3 million in grants. Once purchased, the two properties will exceed 1100 acres.
- The Board of Supervisors has directed the District to create a memorial park for Andy Lopez, in conjunction with Regional Parks. They have asked us to come back to them in 60 days with options for the park, which will be in the urban area off of Hearn Avenue in Santa Rosa. This type of property would typically be a Matching Grant project and we might be able to roll it into the Matching Grant program that is set to begin in early 2014. Currently the District is working with County Counsel to see what other options the District has. The General Manager, Bill Keene, will be meeting with Supervisor Efrén Carrillo Friday, December 13 in the afternoon to discuss further. Mr. Keene will report back to the Advisory Committee in January's meeting.
- A NASA grant has been received for the County wide LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) system in the amount of \$1.2 million to complement the District's vegetation and habitat map.

Calabazas Management Planning

Kim Batchelder, Associate Conservation Planner, presented information on the Calabazas Creek Open Space Preserve Management Plan. The Calabazas property comprises a total of 1290 acres and is made up of several diverse habitats. It is the largest fee property owned by the District. Calabazas is in the Sonoma Valley south Sugar Loaf Ridge State Park along the border of Sonoma and Napa counties. It was a property that was slated to be transferred to State Parks, but was not transferred due to the financial challenges of the State Parks Department. The District has a strong volunteer patrol program as well as docent led tours on the property. Regional Parks has expressed interest in taking the property and the District is working closely with Regional Parks on the management plan. The PowerPoint presentation is available upon request at the District offices.

Land Advisor Update/SDSS

Tom Robinson, Associate Conservation Planner, presented information on the progress of the Land Advisor and SDSS (Spatial Decision Support System). This is a computer modeling tool that allows the District to compare and contrast properties using several different criteria. Sonoma County

offers many opportunities to protect different types of properties and this helps us to decide which properties to focus on. The PowerPoint presentation is available upon request at the District offices.

Projects in Negotiations

- Cresta II going to the Board of Directors January 2014.

Announcements From Advisory Committee Members

Kristin Thigpen

On February 8th, 2014 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm the Southeast Greenway Campaign will have a community update. The meeting will focus on the status of the Greenway preservation efforts, and host a panel of Open Space and Parks leaders, including Bill Keene, SCAPOSD, Caryl Hart, SC Regional Parks, Craig Anderson, LandPaths and Nanette Smejkel, City of Santa Rosa Parks. The event will take place at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa.

Laurie Gallian

Attended the City of Sonoma Climate Action 2020 Public Workshop on Tuesday, December 11, 2013. The Sonoma Ecology Center was present as well as grange members and others. There will be a County of Sonoma Climate Action 2020 Public Workshop on Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at the Permit and Resource Management Department at 2550 Ventura Avenue, Santa Rosa.

Adjournment: 6:56 pm

Next scheduled meeting date: January 23, 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,
Advisory Committee Secretary