



Attachment "A"

SONOMA COUNTY OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
August 22, 2013 MINUTES

5:02 p.m. Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

Members Present

Laurie Gallian	Sue Conley	John Dell'Osso	Shanti Edwards
Gary Wysocky	John Nagle	Don McEnhill	Jeff Holtzman
Bill Smith	Cary Fargo	Kristin Thigpen	

Members Absent

Dennis Murphy
Steve Rabinowitsh
Jan McFarland

Staff Present Bill Keene, General Manager; Misti Arias, Acquisition Program Manager; Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Program Manager; Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager; Mary Dodge, Administrative and Fiscal Services Manager; Kathleen Marsh, Stewardship Coordinator; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Public Attendees Ken Wells, David Bannister, Ann Hargreaves, Christine Williams, Susan Kirks

Public Comment

No public comments on items not on agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Gallian asked for comments on the minutes of May 23, 2013. Motion by Don McEnhill to approve minutes and John Dell'Osso seconded the approval of the minutes. Ten members were in favor, one abstention.

General Manager's Report

- The Montini Trail in Sonoma is almost complete and is ahead of schedule. There will be an opening event in early spring. Bill Keene, General Manager, offered to take Advisory Committee Members out to the trail earlier if they would like to see it. The trail links to the existing Overlook Trail and is approximately 5.5 miles long.

- The East Slope Sonoma Mountain Trail will be going to the Board on September 24, 2013. This trail is near Jack London State Park, and when the North Slope Trail is open next year the two will connect creating an 18 mile trail.
- The District's O&M Policy will be going to the Board on September 10, 2013.
- The Forever Forestville Matching Grant project will be going to the Board on September 24, 2013.
- The District has purchased new tables and chairs for the large conference room where the Advisory Committee meets. They are easier to move, stackable and give the conference room a professional appearance. Chair Gallian noted that this enhanced the professional appearance of the District.

O&M Policy

Bill Keene, General Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the District's O&M Policy. This item will be going to the Board on September 10, 2013. After the presentation, Advisory Committee Members commented and asked questions of District staff. The public had an opportunity to comment and ask questions. There was a unanimous decision by the Committee to submit a written letter signed by Chair Gallian to the District Board of Directors. The letter will state that the Committee recommends the following:

- Continue to limit payments for operations and maintenance to entities receiving transfer of recreational District properties to three years.
- Continue to provide agricultural and environmental education, public outings, and permit programs on recreational properties not currently open to the public.
- Continue to provide resource management and infrastructure maintenance of recreational District properties until they can be transferred to an appropriate entity.
- Staff time and legal costs are to be considered as part of the 10% cap on operations and maintenance of recreational properties.
- Capital projects related to providing initial public access including construction of trails and related amenities are to included in the 10% cap.

The PowerPoint presentation is available upon request at the District offices.

Projects in Negotiations

- McCullough Phase II will move forward in the latter part of this year. Grant funding for this project has been successful.
- Forever Forestville Matching Grant Project will go to the Board on September 24, 2013. There have been some changes to the project and a small portion will be slated for commercial use. The evaluation has been approved. There was an extension through the bank in order to make these changes.

Announcements From Advisory Committee Members

Laurie Gallian

- 1) Chair Gallian has been placed on Supervisor Mike McGuire's 101 Tree Ad Hoc Committee. This committee is working with Caltrans to discourage tree loss along 101. There will be a meeting in September looking for resources to improve the scenic viewpoint. The Water Agency is involved as well since the loss of trees affects water drainage and can create more flooding potential.
- 2) Jack London State Park has improved their trails and there has been an increase in horseback riding on the trails as a result.

Adjournment: 6:54 pm

Next scheduled meeting date: September 26, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,
Advisory Committee Secretary