



Attachment "A"

***SONOMA COUNTY AGRICULTURAL PRESERVATION AND OPEN SPACE  
DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE***

***December 10, 2015 MINUTES***

5:05 pm Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,  
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

**Members Present**

Jeffrey Holtzman	Gary Wysocky	Steve Rabinowitsh
Jan McFarland	John Nagle	Kristin Thigpen
Janet Orchard	John Dell'Osso	

**Members Absent**

Doug Lipton	Cary Fargo	Sue Conley
Don McEnhill	Curt Nichols	Bill Smith
Laurie Gallian	John Azevedo	

**Staff Present**

Bill Keene, General Manager; Misti Arias, Acquisition Program Manager; Jennifer Kuszmar, Matching Grant Coordinator; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Chair Steve Rabinowitsh called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Chair Rabinowitsh announced there was a change in the agenda: item #6, Portrait of Sonoma, was moved to the #5 spot, and Urban Open Space Overview – Matching Grant Program was moved to the #6 spot.

**Public Comment**

Teri Shore from Greenbelt Alliance announced there will be a study session at the Board of Supervisors on December 15, 2015 at 10:30 am on community separators. The Supervisors will be considering additional community separators and greenbelts in the Cloverdale and Healdsburg areas.

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of October 22, 2015 were approved as submitted.

## **General Manager's Report**

- The Sebastopol Skategarden matching grant project will be going to the Board December 15, 2015.
- The Dixon property transfer side agreement will also be going to the Board December 15, 2015.
- The contract with the City of Healdsburg to transfer Healdsburg Ridge will be going to the Board January 12, 2016.
- The IPAOM updated policy will be going to the Board January 26, 2016.
- The Conservation Planning Update will be going to the Board on February 2, 2016. Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager, will give an update on LiDAR, Climate Action Through Conservation and Healthy Lands, Healthy Economies.
- The Conservation Easement Workshop, a workshop on conservation easements and how they work, will be going to the Board February 9, 2016.
- The Stewardship Planning Update will be going to the Board March 1, 2016.
- In last week's meeting with the Fiscal Oversight Commission they received a presentation from consultants at the Center for Natural Land Management on the calculation of the District's reserve fund requirement post Measure F. An emphasis was placed on how much of an interest rate return could be anticipated utilizing the County investment pool and what other alternatives there may be. This discussion will be continued at future meetings.
- Karen Gaffney is working on the youth engagement project. The plan is to have the recruitment in March 2016 and begin the program in September 2016.
- Richardson Kashia will be closing either today or tomorrow.
- Estero Ranch is scheduled to close December 23, 2015.
- Andrea McKenzie, former District General Manager, has been identified as an environmental hero by Bay Nature and will be acknowledged at the Local Hero Awards Dinner in March. Ralph Benson and Craig Anderson were both acknowledged in the past few years.
- On November 4, 2015 from 6:00 to 8:00 pm there was a Bordessa Trail Public Meeting that was well attended. The community is concerned with making sure there is protection for the Estero and buffers for the adjacent lands.

## **Sub-committee Report Outs**

The Ag Subcommittee did not meet this week and had no report out.

## **Portrait of Sonoma**

Brian Vaughn, Director of the Department of Health, presented the Portrait of Sonoma, an in-depth look at the health and well-being of Sonoma County. The report explores differences in health, income and education by neighborhood, race and ethnicity and gender. It provides all community partners with a tool to help reduce these gaps. Mr. Vaughn was invited to inform the Advisory Committee about the data, build support for using the data to reduce disparities in our community, and start a conversation about what we can do to create more opportunity and equity.

Mr. Vaughn acknowledged the District as one of the original signers for committing to use the Portrait to drive the District's work.

For more information, the PowerPoint presentation is available at the District upon request.

## **Urban Open Space Overview – Matching Grant Program**

Jennifer Kuszmar, Matching Grant Coordinator, updated the Advisory Committee on the Urban Open Space and Matching Grant Program making linkages between the Portrait's findings and the District's investment in the County's urban open spaces. The last Matching Grant Program cycle was in 2014. The Matching Grant Program focuses on cities or urban areas for acquisition, restoration, recreation development or a combination of these. If awarded, the Grantee must match the District's grant funds 1:1. The 2016 Matching Grant Program is allocated with \$2.5 million. In the January 2016 Advisory Committee meeting, a subcommittee will be formed. There is a public meeting on the same date, January 28, 2016, from 9-11 am, as a kick off for the applicants. March 31, 2016 is the deadline for applications. Recommendations will be selected by the Advisory Committee subcommittee and District staff, and the recommendations will go to the full Advisory Committee in a public meeting. Following this, staff will provide the Board with a suite of recommended projects for their consideration in late summer or early fall of 2016.

For more information, the PowerPoint presentation is available at the District upon request or you can contact Jennifer Kuszmar with any questions.

## **Projects in Negotiations**

There were no report outs for projects in negotiations.

## **Announcements From Advisory Committee Members**

### Jan McFarland

The City of Sonoma decided to not have dogs on Montini with a 2-3 vote.

### Steve Rabinowitsh

The Sonoma City Council voted in a new mayor, Laurie Gallian.

### **Adjournment:** 6:37 pm

Next scheduled meeting date: January 28, 2016

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,  
Advisory Committee Secretary

