



Attachment "A"

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

March 23, 2017 MINUTES

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

Members Present

Cary Fargo	Doug Lipton	Bill Smith
Jan McFarland	John Nagle	Elly Grogan
Don McEnhill	John Dell'Osso	

Members Absent

Curt Nichols	Kristin Thigpen	Regan Connell
Neysa Hinton	David Cook	Steve Rabinowitsh

Staff Present

Bill Keene, General Manager; Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Program Manager; Alex Roa, Associate Planner; Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist; Seamus Rafferty, Stewardship Technician; Bob Pittman, County Counsel; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Chair Dell'Osso called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

Public Comment

Chair Dell'Osso asked for public comments on items not on the agenda. There were no public comments on items not on the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dell'Osso asked for any corrections to the January 26, 2017 minutes. Seeing none, a motion was made by Don McEnhill to approve the minutes as is. Jan McFarland seconded the motion. A vote was taken, and all were in favor.

General Manager's Report Out

- The District has held three Vital Lands Initiative public meetings in the past two weeks. One in Healdsburg with 40 public attendees, one in Forestville with 50 public attendees, and one in Petaluma with 110 public attendees. There are two more meetings next week, one in Santa Rosa and one in Sonoma.

- There was an item in the Press Democrat on the Paulin Creek Preserve that has garnered a lot of public attention and inquiries. The District purchased nine acres of the preserve that connected a piece of property that is owned by the County (Parcel J) and another owned by the Water Agency. All three were originally planned to be managed jointly as a 46-acre preserve. The Board of Supervisors has included Parcel J in the Chanate Redevelopment property sale. The Redevelopment conceptual proposal includes developing housing and retail uses. The community has been using Parcel J as part of the 46-acre preserve for decades, and many people in the community are concerned about including Parcel J in the property sale. Mr. Keene has been attending meetings with Board Members and other County staff and the District will work on making sure the District property continues to be protected.
- The District is sponsoring the Artisan Cheese Festival in Petaluma that is taking place this weekend.
- Upcoming Board items: March 28 Property Maintenance, Repair and Management Services Agreement; April 25 Recommendations for Audit Services and Contract; May 16 Mitigation Policy, although this date may change.

Mr. Keene asked the chair to move agenda item #7 Comprehensive Plan Update to item #5.

Subcommittee Report Out & Election of New Members

There was no Ag Subcommittee before the meeting this evening and no report out and no report out on other subcommittees.

Election of new subcommittee members took place. Mr. Keene facilitated. There are three subcommittees currently active: Matching Grant Program, Comp Plan, which has changed its title to Vital Lands Initiative, and Agriculture. The Subcommittees can have up to six members. Current participation is as follows (which reflects current resignations of several members):

Matching Grant Program (room for four more participants)

Bill Smith
John Dell'Osso

Comp Plan (Vital Lands Initiative) (room for one more participant)

Jan McFarland
Don McEnhill
Steve Rabinowitsh
Kristin Thigpen
Cary Fargo

Agriculture (room for two more participants)

John Dell'Osso
John Nagle
Jan McFarland
Doug Lipton

Chair Dell'Osso asked for volunteers from the group. Elly Grogan volunteered to be on the Matching Grant Program subcommittee. Chair Dell'Osso appointed Ms. Grogan to the Matching Grant Program subcommittee.

Mariah will email the absent members to find out if anyone else would like to volunteer for any of the subcommittees.

Comp Plan Update (Vital Lands Initiative)

Alex Roa, Associate Planner, showed the members the Founders Film, a film that the District has been putting together for the last year.

He then presented a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the Comp Plan, which has been renamed to the Vital Lands Initiative.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at the District upon request or you can contact Mr. Roa with any questions.

Stewardship Reserve Update

Sheri Emerson, Stewardship Program Manager, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Stewardship Reserve Update.

The PowerPoint presentation is available at the District upon request or you can contact Ms. Emerson with any questions.

Mitigation Guidelines Follow-Up

Ms. Emerson also presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Mitigation Guidelines Follow-Up. The Advisory Committee members were updated on the Fiscal Oversight Commissioners suggestions to District staff for the guidelines which included leaving out a 5th criterion. A discussion followed among members and public attendee. There was a motion from Don McEnhill to go forward with the guidelines with the Fiscal Oversight Commissioners suggestions, if language from the 5th criterion was added to the introduction to the Mitigation Guidelines. Jan McFarland seconded the motion. A vote was taken and all were in favor. The guidelines will move forward with comments and edits by the Fiscal Oversight Commissioners and Advisory Committee Members and will go to the Board.

Projects in Negotiations

Howlett Forest is close to closing.

Andy's Unity Park went to the Board and it is moving forward.

Announcements from Advisory Committee Members

Elly Grogan

The Southeast Greenway Preferred Alternative is on the agenda at the City of Santa Rosa Council meeting on Tuesday, March 28.

Adjournment: 7:21 pm

Next scheduled meeting date: April 27, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,
Advisory Committee Secretary