



Attachment "A"

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

June 22, 2017 MINUTES

5:04 pm Meeting convened at the District office, 747 Mendocino Avenue,
Suite 100, Santa Rosa, California

Members Present

Curt Nichols	Doug Lipton	Bill Smith	Don McEnhill
Steve Rabinowitsh	John Nagle	Evan Wiig	
John Dell'Osso	Paul Martin	Tawny Tesconi	

Members Absent

Kristin Thigpen	Jan McFarland	Cary Fargo
Elly Grogan	Neysa Hinton	David Cook

Staff Present

Bill Keene, General Manager; Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager; Alex Roa, Associate Planner; Amy Ricard, Community Relations Specialist; Allison Schichtel, Conservation GIS Analyst; Jennifer Kuszmar, Matching Grant Coordinator; Mariah Robson, Advisory Committee Clerk

Chair Dell'Osso called the meeting to order at 5:04 pm.

Public Comment

Chair Dell'Osso asked for public comments on items not on the agenda and there were none.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Dell'Osso asked for any corrections to the May 25, 2017 minutes. Don McEnhill motioned to approve the minutes as they were. Curt Nichols seconded the motion. All were in favor of approval.

General Manager's Report Out

- Bill Keene, General Manager, welcomed and introduced the newest Advisory Committee member, Tawny Tesconi, who will represent Agriculture on the committee. Ms. Tesconi worked for many years as Sonoma County Fair Manager and Director of General Services. She introduced herself to the Advisory Committee members and shared that she was born and raised in Sonoma County in the fifth District and loves the agriculture in Sonoma County. The Advisory Committee members welcomed Tawny.

- The District's Budget went to the Board and was approved last week for the 2017/2018 fiscal year.
- Mr. Keene discussed upcoming Board items: July 18 Mitigation Policy and some Open Scope Contracts for Baseline Documentation Services; August 1 Young Armos Incubator Farm and Restoration Concept Plan so the Board can direct the District to send out an RFP for operators. A letter of interest was handed out to members and Mr. Keene asked that they pass this letter on to any interested parties; and August 15 Andy's Unity Park Matching Grant – a joint item with Regional Parks.
- The Kashia and Stewart's Point trail went to the Board on Tuesday, June 20 and the District and Regional Parks received Board approval to add two new miles to the trail.
- The District is sponsoring the Farm Bureau's Love of the Land event that is taking place on July 13. Mr. Keene will not be able to attend but there are three tickets available to Advisory Committee members. Any members that would like a ticket should contact Mariah.

Subcommittee Report Out

The District currently has three active subcommittees:

1. Matching Grant Program
2. Agriculture
3. Vital Lands Initiative

The Matching Grant Program Subcommittee has not met recently and there was no report out.

The Ag Subcommittee did not meet at their usual time this month and had no report out.

Vital Lands Initiative Subcommittee did not meet and there was no report out.

Vital Lands Initiative Update

Karen Gaffney, Conservation Planning Program Manager, introduced the Vital Lands Initiative team to the Advisory Committee members: Allison Schichtel, data analysis; Amy Ricard, internal and community engagement; and Alex Roa, planning and scheduling. Currently the team are gathering information from data to create draft products for review. The team will be asking the Advisory Committee for input on the draft products. Mr. Roa gave a timeline of the VLI in the next couple of months. Draft outlines will be complete in June and will be available on the website for everyone's accessibility. This item will be on the Advisory Committee Meeting agenda in August for another update.

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

Projects in Negotiations

Mr. Keene said Andy's Unity Park will go to the Board in August.

Announcements from Advisory Committee Members

Evan Wiig

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers is having their 4th Annual Agrarian Games event on September 16. This is a celebration of sustainable agriculture, local food, and family farms. There will be games and music and plenty of farmers and families and is being held at the Petaluma Fair Grounds from noon to 6:00 pm.

Don McEnhill

Also on September 16, the RussianRiverKeeper is holding their 30th Anniversary Russian River Watershed Cleanup event. The event will begin at 8:30 am until 1:15 pm.

Adjournment: 6:24 pm

Next scheduled meeting date: August 24, 2017

Respectfully submitted,

Mariah Robson,
Advisory Committee Secretary